

Anthem Calvary Invitation Craig Courtney

Come and see the Lamb of God, O come to Calvary;
linger for a moment more and see the twisted tree;
come and hear the hammer ring, come hear it nail his feet;
linger for a moment more, O come to Calvary.
Come and taste the tears that fall, O come to Calvary;
linger for a moment more and taste his lonely grief;
come and feel the angry thorns, come feel his agony;
linger for a moment more, O come to Calvary.
Though you long to turn away, you cannot seem to leave;
rooted to the ground you stand as firmly as the tree;
in his face you recognize what draws you to this place;
written on each line of pain and suffering is grace.
Come and see the Lamb of God, come hear the heavens ring;
come and taste the tears that fell, come feel his agony;
come and look into his face, come stand beneath the tree;
linger for a moment more, O come to Calvary.

Pamela Martin

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Hymn 286 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Hymn 288 Were You There

Hymn 292 What Wondrous Love Is This

* **HYMN** 298 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
“And I, when I am lifted up, will draw all people to myself.”

UNISON PRAYER

Let us pray:

**God beyond all understanding,
when your Son was lifted up on the cross,
the light of your love exposed sin and evil for what it is.
You turned the apparent defeat of the cross
into the victory of your grace.
You converted us back to you,
so that we stepped down from the throne of our lives,
becoming clowns for Christ
and following your Son into your brave new world,
which he opened up to us through his resurrection.**

**We pray now that the whole world may come to know
that things which were cast down are being raised up,
and things which had grown old are being made new,
and that all things are being brought to their perfection
by the One through whom all things were made
and by whose love all things are redeemed,**

**Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

There is no benediction or dismissal on Good Friday in recognition of the fact that this act of worship is not complete until the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Those who wish may stay to pray and meditate in the quietness of this moment. Whenever you are ready, please leave the church in complete silence.

SILENCE

Let all keep silence until all have departed.

+ + +

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists

The Reverend John Wright

The Reverend Michael Mumme

The Reverend Cathy Stone

Organist

Scott Davis

Cantor

Wendi Olinger

COVER IMAGE

Salvador Dali's *Christ of St. John of the Cross*

MARCH 27

Easter Sunday Services

8:45 and 10:45 a.m., Pre-service Music

9:00 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Sermon: “Easter, Really?”

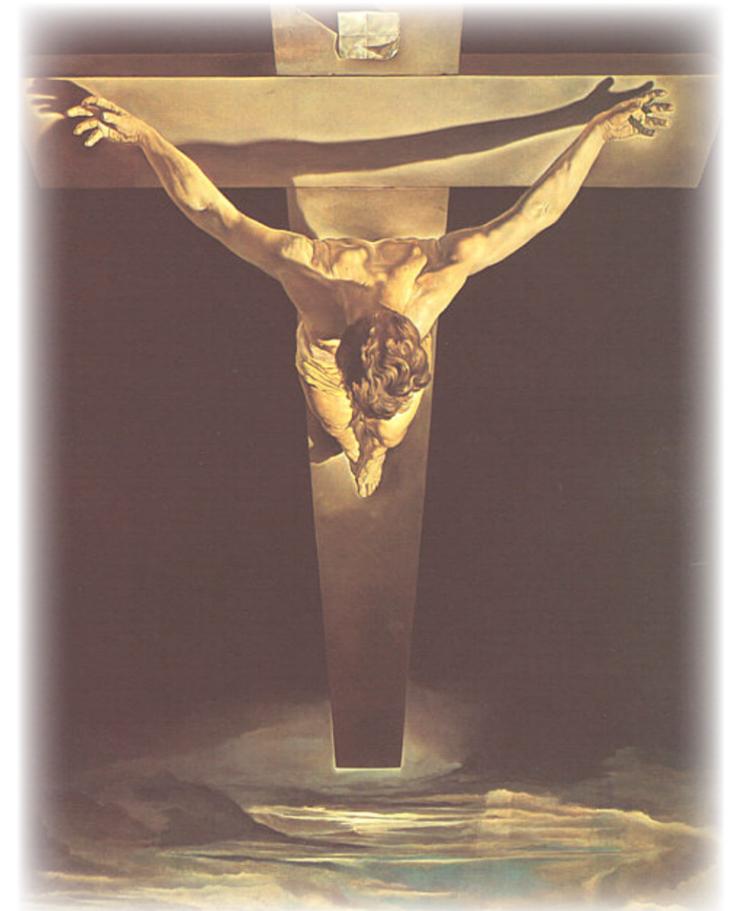
As with Christmas, so also with Easter, we often take its meaning for granted. But do we know the real meaning of Easter? If we did, the Christian Church would be filled with such explosive power and hope that we would change the world! Come and find out why.

Family Butterfly Release

10:15 a.m., Capitol Grounds

This will take the place of Children's Sunday School on Easter.

GOOD FRIDAY
March 25, 2016
7:30 p.m.



*Now is the judgment of this world.
Now the ruler of this world will be driven out.
And I, when I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all people to myself.*

John 12:31-32

GATHERING

On this solemn day the service begins without a prelude.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow?

**Behold, the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world.**

O my people, what have I done to you?
Or in what have I offended you? Answer me!

Have mercy on us.

* HYMN 297 Beneath the Cross of Jesus Stanzas 1 and 2

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray:

**Holy God—all that we are not—
whose love, unlike ours, knows no limits:
graciously behold, we humbly pray, this your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing
to be betrayed into the hands of his enemies
and to suffer death on the cross.**

**Tonight, as we kneel at the foot of his cross,
to wait and to watch with him there,
help us to see what it cost you to love the human race
and to see ourselves for what we are:**

Judas, slave of jealousy, where are you?"

I am here.

Peter, slave of fear, where are you?"

I am here.

Thomas, slave of doubt, where are you?"

I am here.

Pilate, slave of expediency, where are you?"

I am here.

Men and women of Jerusalem, enslaved to mob rule,
where are you?"

We are here.

We all are here as slaves of sin;

Lord, have mercy upon us.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (Excerpts from Fourth Servant Song)

Tonight the choir will sing a portion (indicated in red) of this scripture in an anthem entitled "Surely, He Hath Borne Our Grievs" by Victor C. Johnson.

He had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom others hid their faces.

**Surely he hath borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows**

yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions.

He was bruised for our iniquities.

**The chastisement of our peace was upon him,
and with his stripes we are healed.**

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich;

although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Through what he experienced,

my righteous one, my servant, will bring many
back into a right relationship with God.

* PSALTER RESPONSE

Psalm 22 (Excerpts)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?**

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

I am but a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they wag their heads:

**"He committed his cause to the Lord;
let the Lord him deliver him.**

**Let the Lord rescue him,
if the Lord delights in him!"**

Many bulls encircle me;
**they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.**

I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;

my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;

you lay me in the dust of death.

Indeed, dogs surround me;

**a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—**

I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;

they divide my garments among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

ANTHEM

My Wordless Prayer

Craig Courtney

My words lie still and lifeless as dust upon the sand,
I can no longer voice one request of one demand.

My cup of tears is empty, I can no longer cry,
my lips have fallen silent, my prayer is but a sigh.

Spirit, come and rest your ear upon my heart;

O come and hear my wordless prayer, my silent plea
and take them far away from me.

Take them from this heart of mine
to the Father's heart divine,

speak in tones unknown to man
that God may hear and understand.

My voice is weak from calling to you both night and day.

How long will you be silent? Why do you turn away?

Pamela Martin

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* GOSPEL READING

John 12:27-32

INTERPRETATION OF THE GOSPEL *Parable*

PRAYER

**Crucified God,
what have you done to deserve this?
and what have we done to deserve you?
To the mystery of undeserved suffering,
you bring the deeper mystery of unmerited love.
Forgive us for not knowing what we have done.
Open our eyes to see what you are doing now,
as, through wood and nails,
you disempower our depravity
and transform us by your grace.**

MEDITATION BEFORE THE CROSS

During this time, as we sing the hymns of the passion, you are invited to pray in your pew, or you may come forward, whenever you feel moved to do so, to kneel at the rail to pray. Or you may come into the chancel to kneel around the icon of the cross, as they do in the Taizé community in France. You may want to touch the cross, or even to rest your head upon it, as a way of thanking Jesus for what he has done for you or as a way of giving to him burdens that you are carrying, believing that "by his wounds, we are healed." We begin this meditation with the following anthem: