

April 2, 2021  
Good Friday

***Confitemini Domino, quoniam bonus. Confitemini Domino, alleluia***  
***Come and fill our hearts with your peace, You alone, O Lord are holy.***  
***Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia.***

**Words of Welcome:**

**Opening Prayer**

***Holy One, at the edge of this stark day, we bring our humanity. Be with us we pray. In the stillness, in the story, in the shadows of our frailty and faults, help us discern your presence. As we remember the events of this day so very long ago, show us again the way forward through the depth and beyond the challenges we now face. Be our strength and our hope, we pray. Amen***

**Reading John 18:1–27 -Jesus Is Arrested**

***Prayer O Holy One, there have been times when we have denied knowing you and felt embarrassed, nervous or ashamed to speak of who we truly are. Give us the courage to stand up for what is right in this world so that others can depend on us. Help us to support one another in good ways and speak honestly in situations which may be uncomfortable. Amen.***

***VU 147 What Wondrous Love Is This***

**Reading - John 18:28 – 40 -Jesus Before Pilate**

***Prayer My God, Give us the heart to listen. Grant us the words to tell others what is true. Settle the anger, hurt and sorrow that we may hold in our hearts. And release the goodness that you created in us to others in order to***

***create the peace we so need in these times of judgment. Our truths are not wrong, but are a lesson to what you have asked us to be – a path to your love. Amen***

***VU 133 Go to Dark Gethsemane***

**Reading John 19 :1–16 - Jesus Is Sentenced**

***Prayer Loving God, many times we cry over the injustices of this world. We get discouraged and frustrated from the harm we see around us. But, sometimes, without realizing it, we too are guilty of these injustices. Help us become aware of these patterns of behaviour and give us renewed observations of the ways in which we behave. Place in our hands a new way – one of forgiveness, understanding and love. Allow us to be instruments of encouragement and peace during times of harm and hate so that, together, we can be the path to loving one another-the commandment that Jesus left us. Amen***

***VU 145 O Sacred Head***

**Reading John 19:16b–27 - The Crucifixion of Jesus**

***Prayer Great Mystery, hear our prayer from our hearts and minds as, in silence, we reflect upon the crucifixion of Jesus. Allow the Holy Spirit to enter us as we remember the journey Christ has taken. In this moment, may we be guided as to what we need to receive in our lives so as to understand a little more our own path, and the path of your creation. Amen***

***VU 144 Were You There (v.1,2)***

**Reading John 19:28–34, 36–42 - The Death of Jesus**

***Prayer God, let your miracle live through us as passionate people of your word. You have given us the opportunity to be great miracles in this world. We are witnesses to the cross, we are witnesses of the truth. We are the miracle that will go forward and help the world during this time of sorrow, need and change. Bless us with the will to be a better people – a people that has the vision, the ability, the knowledge, the understanding and the breath to continue this great journey of life. In Jesus' name, Amen***

**VU 144 (v. 3,4)**

**Reading John 19: 38-42 – The Burial of Jesus**

***Prayer* Christ, when we survey the wondrous cross, strengthen us to face the very worst in our world: hatred, greed, lust for power, fear that we are small/insignificant/ugly/unworthy, violence, oppression. Help us to bring your truth, grace, faith, hope, wisdom, and love—the greatest of these being love. Amen**

**Closing Words**

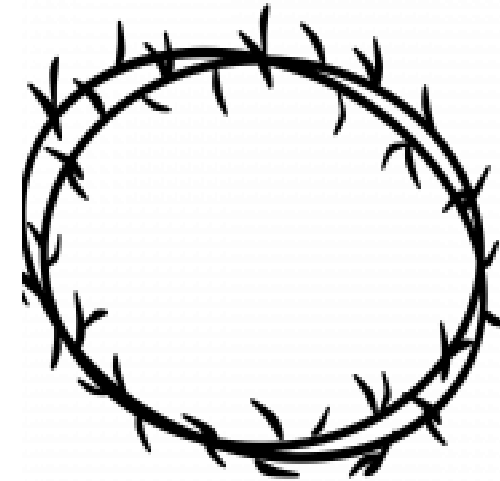
***Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom...(VU 148)***

Adapted from The Passion Story and Prayers for Good Friday, 10 April 2020

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