

**Good Friday – April 10th, 2020 – The English Community Outreach Project
Service of Word, Music and Meditation**

Greeting – Rev. Rosalind Gnatt

Meditation - Adagio from the 4th Sonate for Violin & Harpsichord in Cm – JS Bach

Part One: the Passover with the Disciples (*Reader: Susanne Schumacher*)

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, Jesus' disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping into the same bowl with me. The Son of Man's path is already written, but woe to the one who betrays the Son of Man! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." He took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Meditation: The Deer's Cry (St. Patrick's Shield) – Arvo Pärt. Ars Nova Copenhagen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mFOXkLLLo>

Part Two: The Mount of Olives: Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane and is arrested

(Reader: Ralf Schumacher)

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all desert me; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But Peter said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs. Now Judas had given them a sign: "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." He went up to him and saying, "Rabbi!" kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. One of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Meditation: Prelude nr. 20 in Cm – Largo, Frédéric Chopin

Part Three: Jesus before the Council (Reader- Kristina John-Koch)

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, ; he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus but they found none, for many gave contrary and false testimony.

Then the high priest stood in their midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the Nazarene." But he denied it, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.

And the servant-girl, on seeing him, said again to the bystanders, "He is one of them." But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them. Even your speech is Galilean" But he began to curse, and swear, "I do not know this man you are talking about."

At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

Meditation: Drop, drop slow tears – Orlando Gibbons

Part Four: Jesus before Pilate (Reader:

Early in the morning, the chief priests, elders, scribes, and the whole Sanhedrin devised a plan. They bound Jesus, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate, who asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." The chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked again, "Have you no answer to the charges against you?" But Jesus made no further reply; Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd began to ask Pilate to abide by his custom. He answered them, "Do you want me to release the King of the Jews?" But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace. They clothed him in a purple cloak, twisted some thorns into a crown, and put it on him. And they saluted him: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Meditation: Prelude in C# minor – Das Wohltemperte Klavier, JS Bach

Part Five: The Crucifixion of Jesus (Reader:

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

Meditation: Largo from the 4th Sonate for Violin & Harpsichord in Cm – JS Bach

Part Six: The Death of Jesus

At noonday, darkness came over the whole land for three hours. At the third hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he cried out and breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was a son of God! There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

Meditation: Io sono la madre, Ottorino Respighi
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oc07DO5okKg>

*I am the Mother ...
Forever, forever he is gone - My crucified Son.
I am the Mother ...
I have eyes... I have eyes fixed On the endless road
Where my Lord has gone.
I am the heart of pain and tears, The cry for the one who died.
I am the Mother, Mariam -
The hour of anguish that trembles around The shining hand of my Son
Who is crucified.
I am the mother.*

Part Seven: The Burial of Jesus

When evening had come, and it being the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

Meditation: Piano Sonate Op.10 nr. 3 Largo in Dm, Ludwig van Beethoven.

Benediction

Rhodri Britton, Piano and Cembalo

Urszula Britton, Violin

