

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE HEART

On this day our Lord returned from Bethany to Jerusalem, cursing the barren fig tree on the way. He cleared the courts of the Temple and declared that His Father's house should be a house of prayer for all people.

(Please use the prelude to prepare your heart for worship.)

The Prelude

O Jesu, vie ist dein Gestalt (BWV 1094)

J. S. Bach

Although you are not present physically, you will be invited to stand when able, and to be seated when necessary. Worship is participative and not passive. God has designed us to be physical creatures and sometimes our hearts and minds will follow our posture.

The Chiming of the Hour

† The Opening Sentences and Invocation The Reverend Claude E. McRoberts, III
Senior Minister, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery

Minister: O Christ, Fountain of life and holiness, You have taken away our sins. On the cross, You were wounded for our transgressions and were bruised for our iniquities.

All: Save us, Lord.

Minister: O Christ, obedient unto death, source of all comfort, our life and our resurrection, our peace and reconciliation.

All: Save us, Lord.

Minister: Jesus, Lamb of God,

All: Have mercy on us.

Minister: Assist us mercifully with Your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may approach with reverence the meditation on those mighty acts whereby You have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

† *Congregation, please stand as able*

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain:
mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
look on me with Thy favor, vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend,
for this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

† The Opening Prayer

The Scripture Lesson

John 12:1-11

Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 So they gave a dinner for Him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at table. 3 Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was about to betray Him), said, 5 “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” 6 He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. 8 For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me.” 9 When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. 10 So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The Homily “Scent of a Woman” The Reverend P. Kurt Cooper

The Solo *He Was Despised* G. F. Handel
Merritt Lee, *soprano*

† The Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, You stretched out Your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of Your saving embrace: so clothe us in Your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know You to the knowledge and love of You; for the honor of Your Name. Amen.

† The Benediction

Minister: Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in every way. And may that peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost and His very presence be with you, and remain with you until the day breaks and all these shadows flee away.

People: Amen!

† The Postlude O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High Latin Hymn



Please join us tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. (prelude at 6:55) for our
TUESDAY HOLY WEEK SERVICE
“Holy Tuesday”
Mark 11:27–12:44
The Reverend W. Rob Pendley