

## Good Friday – Mark Scene 38 - 41

April 10, 2020

### Service Notes and Reflection

#### **Betrayal**

Gary Cantwell reads Mark 14:12-26

*On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So, he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, '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."*

*The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So, they prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me." They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?" "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. "Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

**Confession Spoken Together:** Together we confess...there are times we have broken faith and broken trust. We acknowledge that by our sins we have not only betrayed You O Lord, but we often betray other. For this...we repent and ask for forgiveness.

#### **Denial**

Caitlin Garrett reads Isaiah 53:2-4

*He grew up before him like a tender shoot,  
and like a root out of dry ground.  
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.  
He was despised and rejected by mankind,  
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.  
Like one from whom people hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.  
Surely, he took up our pain  
and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God,  
stricken by him, and afflicted.*

**Confession Spoken Together:** Forgive us Lord when we fail to see You when You pass us by and we give no second glance. Grant us new vision. Open our eyes to see You in the smallest of things. Open our hearts to Your compassionate ways. Give us ears to hear Your loudest whispers and guide us to not miss the lessons of life-giving moments.

#### **Aloneness**

Nate Huntley reads Mark 14:32-41

*They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch." Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible, the hour might pass from him. "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners."*

**Confession Spoken Together:** O Lord, we have run from Your presence and from our conscience, but tonight we pray we would run no more. We have hidden ourselves in the shadows, seeking to avoid Your face. We have drawn away from the sound of Your voice, fearful of what You might speak, fearful of what obedience might require. We have sinned, O God and are pained at these thoughts. Hear our words of repentance.

### **Accusation**

Sandra Ramsey reads Mark 14:55-59

*The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.' Yet even then their testimony did not agree."*

*Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans. So, they bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. "Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate. "You have said so," Jesus replied. The chief priests accused him of many things. So again, Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of." But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed. Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. "Crucify him!" they shouted. "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified."*

**Confession Spoken Together:** Lord... as we listen to the crowd long ago, shouting "crucify him", we recognize when we fail You...when we sin against You...when we disobey You...we shout those same words. Forgive us for not understanding who You are in this present day and time. Help us fully embrace and deeply believe Lord, that You are the only way. You are the solid truth. You are our Life.

### **Suffering**

Kitty Smith reads Isaiah 53:1-5

*Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely, he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

**Confession Spoken Together:** You, O Lord, love us with a love like no other. Despite our wandering hearts You continually restore, remake, rekindle, rebuild and remain faithful, steadfast and true.

## Crucifixion

Mark Windle reads Mark 15:16-31

*The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace and called together the whole company of soldiers. They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" Again, and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.*

*A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.*

*It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS.*

*They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself!" In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.*

**Confession Spoken Together:** Help us Lord in our unbelief. Rekindle our hope. Be our healing.

Let our minds and hearts remember the faithful works You have done in our lives and let our spirits rest on those truths.

## Death

Jonathan reads Mark 15:33-37

*At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").*

*When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah." "Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down," he said. With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.*

**Confession Spoken Together:** words fade up on the screen... "Surely He was the Son of God."

## Reflection Questions

\*Which scripture reading or key word particularly stood out to you from this service? What did you hear from God in these words?

\*What do these scriptures tell us about God?

\*Was there a confession that was hard to make?

\*If you have children or students, invite them into the discussion. Ask them about their feelings or what questions they have. Discuss why we might call it Good Friday.

**Visual reflection (Visio Divina)\*** [The Good Shepherd](#) by Daniel Bonnell

**Song for reflection** [O Darkest Night](#) by Young Oceans

\*Visio divina – a thoughtful and slow way of contemplating a visual prompt like a piece of art, photograph or image and inviting God to speak to you through it. First, focus on the detail that your eyes are drawn to right away – keep focus there and pay attention to what thoughts and emotions you are having. Then, look at the entire image and consider it as a whole, being aware of thoughts, questions and emotions it provokes. End in silence and prayer, considering your experience and anything you feel called to respond to.