



Good Friday, March 29, 2024

*Featuring the Cathedral Singers and soloists; Dr. Heather Hinton, organist and Wendy Muston, harp
in the Seven Last Words of Christ by Théodore Dubois*

PRELUDE

Lamento

A. Guilmant

GREETING

VOCAL INTROIT

Amy Cuomo, soprano

O ye people who travel upon the highway, hearken to me, and behold: was ever sorrow like unto my sorrow? For the Lord Almighty has dealt bitterly with me. All night long they hear my sighing.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on the cross.

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

*OPENING HYMN #285

To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord

OPENING PRAYER

**Lord Jesus,
in the shame of the cross
you reveal the glory of God.
As we remember your suffering and death,
save us from hardness of heart
and lead us to repent of our sin
that we may receive your unfailing love. Amen.**

THE FIRST WORD

Ron Berry, baritone; Chad Barton, tenor

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
And the people shouted: Take him, he is guilty. He of death is guilty;
take him, take him, let us crucify him! Let his blood be on us, and on our children!

Then they did crucify Jesus, and the two thieves, one at His right hand, the other at His left hand.
Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

**Standing as you are comfortable and able.*

PRAYER ON THE FIRST WORD FROM THE CROSS

**Almighty God,
to whom your crucified Son prayed for the forgiveness
of those who did not know what they were doing,
grant that we, too, may be included in that prayer.
Whether we sin out of ignorance or intention,
be merciful to us and grant us your acceptance and peace:
in the name of Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior. Amen.**

THE SECOND WORD

Chad Barton, tenor; Ron Berry, baritone

"Today you will be with me in Paradise" Luke 23:43

Verily, you will be in Paradise today with me. Amen, so I tell thee.
Hear me, O Lord, and remember me, when You enter into your kingdom.

PRAYER ON THE SECOND WORD FROM THE CROSS

**O God who is love
and who sees all the suffering, injustice, and misery
which dominates the world:
Have pity on the work of your hands.
Look with mercy upon the poor, the oppressed
and all who are weighed down with sorrow.
Fill our hearts with deep compassion
for those who are suffering,
and usher in your reign of justice and truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE THIRD WORD

Ron Berry, baritone; Diane Stebbe, soprano; Chad Barton, tenor

"Dear woman, here is your son." "Here is your mother." John 19:26-27

See, O woman, here behold your son beloved.
Standing by, behold her crying, and in bitter anguish sighing, as her well-loved Son does hang,
nailed to the accursed tree. Is there any person so void of feeling who does not share her pain
as she kneels there so woeful and all alone.
Woman, behold your son.

PRAYER ON THE THIRD WORD FROM THE CROSS

**Infinite and eternal Spirit,
author of all good
who is never far from any of your children:
Help us fulfill our duties to you and each other.
May all the bonds of love and ties of friendship
be made stronger through Christ
who in his agony remembered
our need for one another in days of loss and grief. Amen.**

THE FOURTH WORD

Ron Berry, baritone

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46

God, my Father, why hast Thou forsaken me?

All those who were my friends, all have now forsaken me, and they that hate me do now prevail against me; and he whom I have cherished, he hath betrayed me.

Even the vine that I have chosen, and that I have planted:

wherefore art thou now so strangely turned into bitterness, that I by thee am crucified?

PRAYER ON THE FOURTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

**You know, O God, the secrets of our hearts;
do not shut your ears to our prayers.**

**Spare us, most holy Lord, most merciful Savior,
in our last hour from the deepest pains of death
that might cause us to fall away from you.**

**May we not feel forsaken by you or shut out from your love;
but save us in the time of trial, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE FIFTH WORD

Ron Berry, baritone; Chad Barton, tenor

"I am thirsty." John 19:28

I am thirsty.

And all the people that passed by Him, all berated Him and shaking their heads they mocked and laughed at him saying: Ah! Thou that would destroy the temple; if thou be Jesus, Son of the Father, now from the cross descend thou, that we may see it and believe that you're the Son of the Most High! If thou art King, come down from the cross then!

PRAYER ON THE FIFTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

**O blessed Savior, whose lips were dry and whose throat was
parched, grant us the water of life that we who thirst after
righteousness may find it quenched by your love and mercy,
leading us to bring this same relief to others. Amen.**

THE SIXTH WORD

Chad Barton, tenor

"It is finished." John 19:30

Father, into Thy hands I now commend my spirit.

For Thou art my God and my Father, and my Savior.

PRAYER ON THE SIXTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

**O Lord Jesus Christ,
who finished the work that you were sent to do,
empower us by your Spirit to be faithful to our call.
Grant us strength to bear our crosses
and endure our sufferings, even unto death.
Enable us to live and love so faithfully
that we too will be counted among your servants
who have finished their course in faith
and now rest from their labors. Amen.**

*HYMN #286

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

THE SEVENTH WORD

Diane Stebbe, soprano; Ron Berry, baritone,
Amy Cuomo, soprano; Chad Barton, tenor;

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Luke 23:46

Then Jesus said with a loud voice: "It is finished!"
And having bowed His sacred head, He yielded up His spirit.

Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever;
for on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed.

PRAYER ON THE SEVENTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

**Eternal God, Faithful Sovereign, Merciful Savior,
we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice
in union with Christ's offering for us
in this mystery of divine love.
Take us as we are and keep us in your grace.
We freely yield all things to your will and way
that our lives may reflect your glory
through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*The tolling of the bells represents the thirty-three years of Jesus' life.
After a moment of meditation, the congregation is asked to leave in silence.*

DISMISSAL IN SILENCE

<p>Easter Sunday Services: 8:30am communion and 11:00am</p>	<p>Get Involved in Our Upcoming Events:</p> <p>April 2, LGBTQ+ Fellowship Gathering at The Garage Food Hall, 6:00pm</p> <p>April 7, Special Friends Game Night, 4:00-6:00pm</p> <p>Wednesdays, April 10 — May 1, 6:30pm Tips for Church Leaders: A Study of New Testament Letters</p> <p>April 14, Cookies and Canvas, 1:00pm</p> <p>April 28, United Women in Faith Sunday Supper, noon</p> <p>May 12, Children's Mothers' Day Musical: <i>Moonlight SUN-ata</i>, 9:45am</p> <p>May 19, Haydn's <i>Mass for St. John of God</i>, 11:00am</p> <p>June 2, Church Picnic, noon</p> <p>Support for Family Promise: April - Delivering meals on Thursdays May - Collecting houseware items</p>
<p>Our Easter Offering supports the Umoja Partnership, an interfaith partnership of comprehensive service to school children in Kenya. For more information visit: umojapartnership.org. Use the QR code to give to the Easter Offering</p> 	