

Good Friday

The Collect:

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Psalm: Psalm 22

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?
- ² O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- ³ Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- ⁵ They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- ⁶ But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- ⁷ All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- ⁸ "He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- ⁹ Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- ¹⁰ I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- ¹¹ Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.
- ¹² Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- ¹³ They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- ¹⁴ I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

- ¹⁵ My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- ¹⁶ Packs of dogs close me in,
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; *
they pierce my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones.
- ¹⁷ They stare and gloat over me; *
they divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.
- ¹⁸ Be not far away, O Lord; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- ¹⁹ Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
- ²⁰ Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- ²¹ I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- ²² Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- ²³ For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- ²⁵ The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.
- ²⁸ To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- ²⁹ My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- ³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Epistle: Hebrews 10:16-25 or 4:14-16; 5:7-9

¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,” ¹⁷he also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

or

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered;⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,