

The Zion West Walworth United Methodist Church – The Walworth Council of Churches

Good Friday 14 April 2006, 7:30 pm

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Good Friday, called *Feria VI in Parasceve* in the Roman Missal, *he hagia kai megale paraskeue* (the Holy and Great Friday) in the Greek Liturgy, *Holy Friday* in Romance Languages, *Charfreitag* (Sorrowful Friday) in German, is the English designation of Friday in Holy Week -- that is, the Friday on which the Church keeps the anniversary of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Parasceve, the Latin equivalent of *paraskeue*, preparation (i.e. the preparation that was made on the sixth day for the Sabbath; see Mark, xv, 42), came by metonymy to signify the day on which the preparation was made; but while the Greeks retained this use of the word as applied to every Friday, the Latins confined its application to one Friday. Irenaeus and Tertullian speak of Good Friday as the day of the Pasch; but later writers distinguish between the *Pascha staurosimon* (the passage to death), and the *Pascha anastasimon* (the passage to life, i.e. the Resurrection). At present the word *Pasch* is used exclusively in the latter sense. The two Paschs are the oldest feasts in the calendar.

From the earliest times the Christians kept every Friday as a feast day; and the obvious reasons for those usages explain why Easter is the Sunday *par excellence*, and why the Friday which marks the anniversary of Christ's death came to be called the Great or the Holy or the Good Friday. The origin of the term *Good* is not clear. Some say it is from "God's Friday" (*Gottes Freitag*); others maintain that it is from the German *Gute Freitag*. Sometimes, too, the day was called *Long Friday* by the Anglo-Saxons, as is called today in Denmark.

Choral Call to Worship: "He Is Worthy of All Our Praise"

Greeting

- One: Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.
- All: That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
- One: Let us pray...
- All: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we, who glory in his death for our salvation, may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him; through Jesus

Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: "The Old Rugged Cross" (v. 1-3) No. 504

The Word

- Old Testament Scripture: Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Silent Reflection
- Epistle Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25
- \*Hymn: "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed" No. 294
- Gospel: John 18:1-19:42
- Meditation: "Atonement" Rev. Todd R. Goddard
- Choral Anthem: "I Crucified You"

The Table

The Reproaches: Christ's Lament Against His Faithless Church

Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by?  
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.  
(Lamentations 1:12)

The Lord says: My people, what have I done to you?  
How have I offended you? Answer me!  
I led you from slavery to freedom, but you led your Savior to the cross.  
I brought you out of Egypt, but you handed me over to the high priests.  
Holy God,  
holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,  
have mercy on us.  
My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!  
I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud, but you led me to Pilate's court.  
I bore you up with manna in the desert, but you struck me down and scourged me.  
Holy God,  
holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,  
have mercy on us.  
My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!  
I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns.

I raised you to the height of majesty, but you have raised me high on a cross.

**Holy God,  
holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,  
have mercy on us.**

My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!  
I gave you saving water from the rock, but you gave me gall and vinegar to drink.

For you I struck down the kings of Canaan, but you pierced your Savior with a lance.

**Holy God,  
holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,  
have mercy on us.**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him.

**If we endure, we shall also reign with him.**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:**      *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

No. 298

**\*Benediction**

**\* = those who are able are asked to stand**

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