

Covenant Church Good Friday Service
April 10, 2020

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Hymn: "Lamb of God" (See attached pdf for scans of the hymns)

1st Responsive Reading: Matthew 27:11-26 (Congregation reads the bold font)

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus said, "You have said so."

But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?"

But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up...

Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

And they said, "Barabbas."

Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

They all said, "Let him be crucified!"

And he said, "Why? What evil has he done?"

But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"

Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Hymn: "Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended" #248

2nd Reading: Matthew 27:27-45

Hymn: "Stricken Smitten and Afflicted" #257

3rd Responsive Reading: Matthew 27:46-54 (Congregation reads the bold font)

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is,

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said,

“Truly, this was the Son of God!”

Message

Hymn: “Oh the Deep Deep Love”

Benediction

Postlude

*If you are able, please take time during the musical postlude
to meditate quietly upon the deep deep love of Christ for us
that his sacrifice on the cross communicates.*