

The Suffering

Isaiah 52:13- 53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrew 4:14-16; 5:7-9; 10:16-25;

John 18:1-19:42 // Good Friday

This worship service is to remember the suffering of Jesus, His crucifixion, and His death on the cross on Calvary. Through the reading of scripture and through the gradual extinguishing of candles, it leaves those worshipping contemplating the significance of Jesus' death. Here are some materials to get you started creating your own worship service.

Main Theme: Remembering the cross at Calvary.

CHOOSING SCRIPTURE // FOR THE FOUNDATION

The following passage from **John 18:1-19:42** lays out a thematic foundation for this service. Other passages support this theme and might be utilized throughout the service.

- ◆ Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- ◆ Psalm 22
- ◆ Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- ◆ Hebrews 10:16-25

CHOOSING MUSIC // FOR SINGING

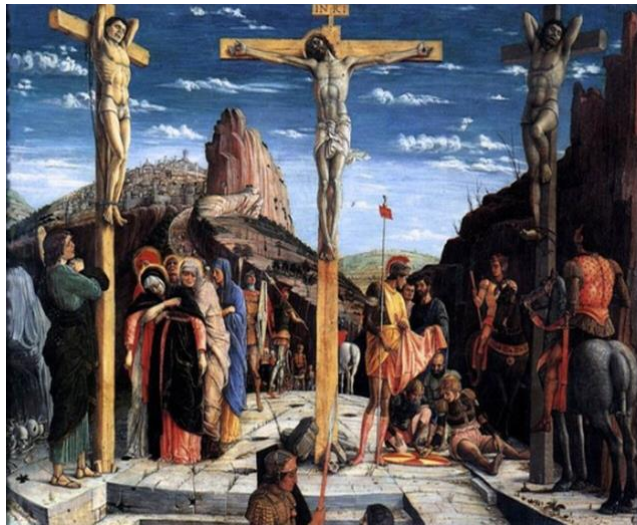
- ◆ **O, Sacred Head Now Wounded**
Text and Music: Paul Gerhardt; (HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN 7.6.7.6.D) German Melody
Public Domain
- ◆ **Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed**
Text and Music: Isaac Watts and Hugh Wilson
Public Domain
- ◆ **Were You There**
Text and Music: African American Spiritual; John Work and Fredrick Work
Public Domain
- ◆ **Thank You Jesus, For the Blood**
Text and Music: Charity Gayle, David Gentiles, Steven Musso, Ryan Kennedy, Bryan McCleery
©2021 Come Up Kings Publishing, ComissionMusic, McCleery MSC, Watershed Worship Publishing, Steven Musso Music, Gather House Music Publishing, Gather House Music Publishing (Admin. By Watershed Music Publishing)
CCLI Song No. 7172456
- ◆ **Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me**
Text and Music: CityAlight, Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson
©2018 Farren Love And War Publishing, Integrity's Alleluia! Music, CityAlight Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song No. 7121852
- ◆ **How Deep the Father's Love for Us**
Text and Music: Austin Stone Worship, Stuart Townend
©1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song No. 1558110

CREATING DRAMA // FOR HEARING

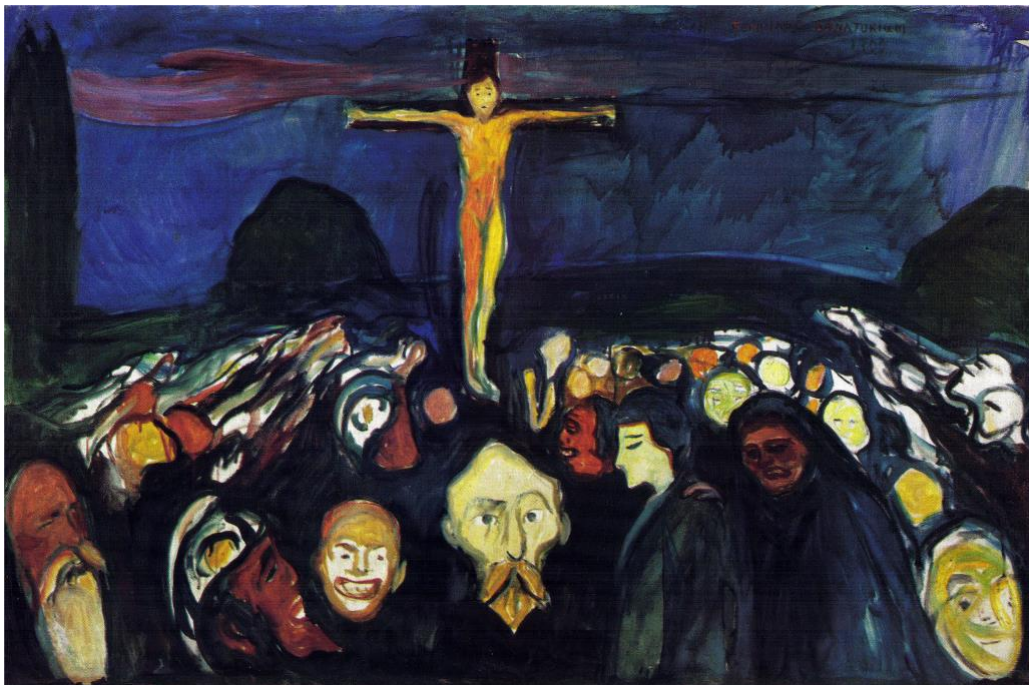
Read the scripture passages above. Then, introduce and show these two videos from Work of the People [www.workofthepeople.com] and Worship House Media [worshiphousemedia.com].

- ◆ [The Way of the Heart](#) takes you through the Stations of the Cross.
- ◆ [The Crucifixion](#) by Church Fuel helps view the Gospel accounts through visuals and music to see the events leading up to Jesus' death on the cross.

FINDING ART // FOR SEEING



[“The Crucifixion”](#) was painted by Andrea Mantegna in 1457-1459 A.D. for the altarpiece at the Basilica of San Zeno in Verona, Italy and now hangs in the Louvre in Paris.



This contemporary art style depiction of the crucifixion called [Golgotha](#) by Edvard Munch.

LIVING WORSHIP // FOR DOING

Remembrance of Jesus' death on the cross can be incorporated into acts of worship weekly on Sundays with the act of communion and songs to commemorate the occasion (see "Choosing Music" section). One aspect of this day that is sometimes difficult for churches to engage is the act of lament and weeping. Good Friday is a dark day, and it seems fitting to mourn the death of our Savior. And yet, we wait with anticipation the glory that is to come. Using Scripture, with Psalm 22 as an example, as an intercessory prayer could be beneficial personally and congregationally as an act of remembering and resonating with that feeling of melancholy. Additionally, a re-enactment of Christ carrying in the cross as a powerful way to portray the gravity that the event to come on Good Friday would hold.

MAKING SPACE // FOR WORSHIPING

For this service, plan to have worship in a room with little light pouring in from outside or have the service in the evening, and at least one candelabra with candles that are lit before the service begins. Throughout the service extinguish one candle at a time. The last candle will be extinguished at the end of the service. The gradual extinguishing of the candles represents the coming of Jesus' death. When the service has ended, worshippers will leave in silence in the darkness to mourn Jesus' death. The color for this day is black, red, or nothing.

WRITING POETRY // FOR PRAYING

Good Friday – Christinna Rosetti (Cosmic)

Am I a stone and not a sheep
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,
And yet not weep?

Not so those women loved
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;
Not so fallen Peter weeping bitterly;
Not so the thief was moved;

Not so the Sun and Moon
Which hid their faces in the starless sky,
A horror of great darkness a broad at broad noon,-
I, only I.
Yet give not o'er,
But seek thy sheep, true Shephard of the flock;
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more and smite a rock.

(Accessed through scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk)

Stand-to: Good Friday Morning- Siegfried Sassoon (Personal)

I'd been on duty from two till four.
I went and stared at the dug-out door.
Down in the frowst I heard them snore.
'Stand to!' Somebody grunted and swore.

Dawn was misty; the skies were still;
Larks were singing, discordant, shrill;
They seemed happy, but I felt ill.
Deep in water I Splashed my way
Up the trench to our bogged front line.
Rain had fallen the whole damned night. O Jesus, send me a wound to-day,
And I'll believe in your bread and wine,
And get my bloody old sins washed white!
(Accessed through [poets.org](https://www.poets.org))

SAMPLE WORSHIP SERVICE

*The Suffering// Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9, 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42//
Good Friday*

Main Theme: *Remembering the Cross at Calvary*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: All the ends of the earth will remember
and turn to the Lord.

**All: All the families of the nations
will bow down before God.**

Leader: For dominion belongs to the Lord.
God rules over the nations.

**All: All peoples on the earth will feast and
worship.**

Leader: Posterity will serve God.
Future generations will be told about the Lord.

**All: They will proclaim God's
righteousness to a people yet unborn.**

From the Abingdon Worship Annual 2006

WELCOME

Pastor says a welcome

Example: Today we gather together to remember Jesus' suffering, crucifixion, and death at Calvary. This is important because His death on the cross paid the price for our sin.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Silence.

SONG

How Deep the Father's Love for Us
Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:1-19:42

See interactive reading on last page, below.

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

Provide time for worshipers to reflect on the weight of God's word for us today.

SONG

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me
O, Sacred Head Now Wounded

MESSAGE

It is Finished

Scriptural Foundation:

John 19

Matthew 27:32-55

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus,
you stretched out your arms of love
on the hard wood of the cross,
that all people might come
within the reach of your saving embrace.
Clothe us in your Spirit, that we,
Stretching out our hands in loving service for others,
may bring those who do not know you
to an awareness and love of you;
who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign,
One God forever! Amen!

- C.H. Brent (1862-1929)

BENEDICTION

Jesus, we wait here by your tomb
 carrying our grief;
 the grief of the betrayer,
 the grief of the denier,
 the grief of the crucifiers.
 We carry the grief of the lost,
 the heartbroken, the bereft.
 Upon you was laid the grief of us all.
 It is finished.
 God of endings, God of darkness,
 God of the tomb, God of dark days and great loss,
 be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

from Leading in Worship

CLOSING SONG

Were You There?
 Thank You Jesus, For the Blood

SENDING

Go into the world, knowing that God is with you
 Go into the world, knowing that God is with you.
 Go into the world with the peace of Christ upon you.
 Go into the world with the blessing of the Holy Spirit.
 And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
 rest upon and remain with us,
 this day and ever more.

Amen.

From rootsontheweb.com

***Please gather your belongings and dismiss in silence.
 We leave in silence as we long for the day of
 Resurrection.***

John 18:1-19:42

*Congregation reads as part of the **crowd***

Narrator The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

Jesus “Whom are you looking for?”

Soldier “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus “I am he.”

Narrator Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again, Jesus asked them,

Jesus “Whom are you looking for?”

Soldier “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus “I told you that I am he. So, if you are looking for me, let these men go.”

Narrator This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken,

Jesus “I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.”

Narrator Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

Jesus “Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

Narrator So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First, they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So, the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate and brought Peter in.

The woman said to Peter,

Woman "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

Narrator Peter said, "I am not."

Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

Jesus "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

Narrator When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

Police "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

Jesus "if I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

Narrator Then Annas sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. Those who were standing near the fire asked him,

Guard "You are not also one of Jesus' disciples, are you?"

Narrator Peter denied it and said, "I am not."

One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with Jesus?"

Again, Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So, Pilate went out to them and said,

Pilate "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

Elders "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Pilate "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law."

Elders "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

- Narrator* (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,
- Pilate* "Are you the King of the Jews?"
- Jesus* "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"
- Pilate* "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"
- Jesus* "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."
- Pilate* "What is truth?"
- Narrator* After Pilate had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,
- Pilate* "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"
- Crowd* Not this man, but Barabbas!"**
- Narrator* Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,
- Soldier* "Hail, King of the Jews!"
- Narrator* and striking him on the face
- Pilate went out again and said to the Jews,
- Pilate* "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him."
- Narrator* So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,
- Pilate* "Here is the man!"
- Narrator* When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,
- Crowd* "Crucify him! Crucify him!"**
- Pilate* "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

Crowd **“We have a law, and according to that law, he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”**

Narrator Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

Pilate “Where are you from?”

Narrator but Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

Pilate “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?”

Jesus “You would have no power over me unless it had been given to you from above; therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”

Narrator From then on, Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

Crowd **“If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.”**

Narrator When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge’s bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews,

Pilate “Here is your King!”

Crowd **“Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!”**

Pilate “Shall I crucify your King?”

Priest “We have no king but the emperor.”

Narrator Then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

So, they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side of Jesus.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

- Priest* "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'"
- Pilate* "What I have written, I have written."
- Narrator* When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic which was seamless and woven in one piece from the top.
- Soldier* "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."
- Narrator* This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.
- Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother Mary, and his mother's sister Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her. He said to his mother,
- Jesus* "Woman, here is your son."
- Narrator* Then he said to the disciple,
- Jesus* "Here is your mother."
- Narrator* And from that hour, the disciple took her into his own home.
- After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),
- Jesus* "I am thirsty."
- Narrator* A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So, they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,
- Jesus* "It is finished."
- Narrator* Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.