



GOOD FRIDAY

Creating Community | Connecting to God | Committed to the City
Fort Washington Collegiate Church | 729 West 181st Street | NYC 10033 | 212.568.4014

Fort Washington Collegiate Church

Friday, April 14th, 2017 | 7:00PM | Good Friday

A TIME OF REFLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY

Gathering *The people gather in silence.*

The Candle is lit

Greeting

We come here today to remember a man. A man ...
who had dreams,
who had those dreams shattered,
who needed time to think and pray,
who knew he was likely to die for what he believed ...

A man of extraordinary religious insight.

A man who did die - a cruel death.

On this day we look at the cross, and we remember ...
the betrayal of friendship and its consequences,
the casual cruelty of Roman authority and execution,
and how unreliable others proved to be in a crisis.

On this day may we also remember
that religious bigotry, cruelty and unreliability
are still a part of our everyday lives.

On this day, then, may we learn some new precepts for living ...
do not avoid contact with suffering,

or close your eyes to suffering,

do not maintain anger or hatred,

do not say untruthful things for the sake of personal interest, or to impress people,

do not live with a vocation that is harmful to humans and nature...

On this day we remember. (*Edited: MDobson, MMorwood, Thich Nhat Hanh*)

Opening Sentences

In hope, in longing:

We're glad to come together.

In solidarity with those who struggle:

We're glad to come together.

In resistance to those who dominate:

We're glad to come together.

In memory of Jesus, who lived with compassion:

We're glad to come together.

In memory of all who act with courage:

We're glad to come together. *J. Nelson-Pallmeyer*

HYMN: Nearer My God, To Thee

Adams



1. Near - er, my God, to Thee, near - er to Thee, E'en though it
2. Though, like a wan - der - er, the sun gone down, Dark - ness comes
3. There let the way ap - pear, steps un - to heav'n; All that Thou
4. Then, with my wak - ing thoughts bright with Thy praise, Out of my



be a cross that rais-eth me! Still all my song shall be,
o - ver me, my rest a stone; Yet in my dreams I'd be
send - est me, in mer - cy giv'n; An - gels to beck - on me
ston - y griefs Beth - el I'll raise; So by my woes to be



Near - er, my God, to Thee; Near - er, my God, to Thee, near - er to Thee!

Reading 1

Gospel of Jesus 15:1-11

One time, some members of the Purity Party started to argue with Jesus.

To test him, they demanded a sign from heaven.

He groaned under his breath and says,

"Why does this generation insist on a sign?"

I swear to God, this generation won't get any sign!"

And turning his back on them, he got back in the boat and crossed over to the other side.

His disciples said to him,

"When will God's imperial rule come?"

"It will not come by watching for it.

It will not be said, 'Look, here it is!' or 'Look, over there!'

"Rather, God's imperial rule is spread out upon the earth, and people don't see it."

On another occasion Jesus said,

"You won't be able to observe the coming of God's imperial rule.

People are not going to be able to say,

'Look, here it is!' or 'Over there!'

"On the contrary, God's imperial rule is right there in your presence."

Reflection 1

I remember a man who had dreams of what might be:
that people would be set free from ideas and images
about God that enslaved them,
that people would believe that through their
everyday acts of human kindness they are
intimately connected with the sacred,
that people would live
'in peace, in God's presence all the days of their lives.'
I remember a man driven by his dreams.

Silence

Reading 2

Gospel of Jesus 7:1-7

Jesus went out by the sea. And, with a huge crowd gathered around him, he started teaching,

“To you who are listening I say, love your enemies.

If you love those who love you, what merit is there in that?

After all, even sinners love those who love them.

“And if you do good to those who do good to you, what merit is there in that? After all, even sinners do as much.”

Jesus said,

“God causes the sun to rise on both the bad and the good, and sends rain on both the just and the unjust.

As you know, God is generous to the ungrateful and the wicked.”

Jesus said, *“Forgive and you'll be forgiven,”*

“Abba, forgive our debts to the extent we have forgiven those in debt to us,”

Reflection 2

I remember a man who had his moments of breakthrough, when it must have seemed his dream was being realized: the times people really listened and responded, the men and women who were prepared to walk with him and support him, times when he spoke better and more convincingly than other times. I remember a man enthused by his successes.

Silence

HYMN: What Wondrous Love is This #212

Anonymous

Reading 3

Gospel of Jesus 2:1-8

After John was locked up, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming God's good news. His message went:

Congratulations, you poor! God's domain belongs to you.

Congratulations, you hungry! You will have a feast.

Congratulations, you who weep now! You will laugh.

And they would bring children to him

so he could lay hands on them,

but some followers scolded them.

Then Jesus grew indignant when he saw this and said to them:

“Let the children come up to me, don't try to stop them.

After all, God's domain belongs to people like that.

“I swear to you, whoever doesn't accept God's imperial rule the way a child would, certainly won't ever set foot in God's domain!”

Reflection 3

I remember a man who learned of the cruel death of his cousin.

He got into a boat, seeking a lonely place,

where he could be with his friends

to absorb the shock,

to grieve quietly,

and to calm the feelings of powerlessness and frustration

and fear for his own future.

I wonder what he prayed about that night?

I wonder what helped him leave that lonely place

and go forward to confront life,

rather than retreat into isolation and safety?

I remember a man driven by his convictions.

Silence

Reading 4

Gospel of Jesus 20:1-2

They come to Jerusalem.

And Jesus went into the temple and began chasing the vendors and shoppers out of the temple area, and he turned the bankers' tables upside down, along with the chairs of the pigeon merchants.

Then he started teaching and would say to them:

"Don't the scriptures say,

'My house is to be regarded as a house of prayer for all peoples'?

"But you have turned it into 'a hideout for crooks'!"

Reflection 4

I remember a man whose dream was shattered:
who broke down and cried over what could have been,
who knew the pain of failure and powerlessness,
who knew what it was like to feel broken and terribly alone.
I remember someone human like all of us.

Silence

Reading 5

Gospel of Jesus 21:1-5

Led by one of Jesus' disciples, the police show up at the place
Jesus and the rest of his followers were gathered.

Because Jesus had often gone to the place,
Jesus' followers knew the place too.

And the police seized Jesus and held him fast.
And the disciples all deserted Jesus and ran away.
They brought Jesus before the high priest.

Reflection 5

I remember a man who knew he was going to die:
who gathered with his friends
knowing it was for the last time,
who spoke to them about what he really believed,
who wanted them to remember him
and to keep his dream alive.
I remember a testament to love.

Silence

Music of Reflection: *“Lamb of God”*

Paris

Reading 6

Gospel of Jesus 21: 6-12

The ranking priests bound Jesus and turned him over to Pilate, the Roman governor.

Then Pilate had Jesus flogged and turned him over to be crucified.

And the Roman soldiers bring him to the place called Golgotha
(which means "Place of the skull").

And the soldiers crucified him.

Now some women were observing this from a distance, among whom were
Mary of Magdala, and Mary the mother of James (the younger), and Joses, and Salome.

These women had regularly followed and assisted him
when he was in Galilee, along with many other women
who had come up to Jerusalem in his company.

Then Jesus breathed his last.

Reflection 6

I remember a man crucified.

He was a failure, abandoned by his male friends, taunted, despised,
enduring a shameful and agonizing death,

no consoling or heartfelt presence of his God to help him.

I remember a man whose faith in all he believed was tested to the limits.

Meditation

"Good Friday Lament"
by Shirley Murray

What have we done to you?
What have we done to you?
What, in the name of God and justice,
blots out the sun for you?
v2 Here at the cross where you are dying,
what have your people done to you?
Jesus, forgive us all!
Jesus, forgive us all!
See how we bruise, misuse each other -
save our destructive fall!
v2 Here at the cross where you are dying,
Jesus, Holy One, forgive us all!
Out of the depths we cry,
Out of the depths we cry,
cry at the pain we cause your heart, our
passionless passing by.
v2 Here at the Cross-where you are dying,
out of the depths, your people cry!

Silence

Cross 1 *The cross is lifted and held horizontally*

Shroud *A white shroud is put in place by four women*

Cross 2 *The cross is carried horizontal and placed on the white shroud*

Silence

The Gift of Petals

The women's prominence at the cross stands in contrast to the men.
And having women as witnesses
was part of a consistent subversiveness
which belonged at the heart of Jesus' approach.
Therefore, remembering the stories,
and remembering the death of innocent,
fragile things in the world around us...
I invite the women of the congregation
to come and scatter some 'petals'
over the cross, as our witnesses.

The rest of the congregation may come forward and scatter rose 'petals' over the cross

The Gift of Fragrant Oil

Some fragrant oil is sprinkled over the leaves
And remembering the gift of the unnamed woman
we offer this fragrant oil.

Music of Reflection: All is Not Lost

Gungor

Reflection 7

I remember a man of extraordinary religious insight:
utterly convinced of the connectedness
between human loving and living in God,
determined to give people personal authority
in their relationship with God,
wanting to set people free from fear of the unknown,
setting his heart on breaking down barriers between people...
We give thanks for the ways in which the
life, teaching, and death of Jesus,
have set us free.

Silence

Jesus provides a glimpse into another this-world reality.
His vision is worth exploring.
For I am encouraged to celebrate life,
(continued...)
to suck the marrow out of existence, to explore, and probe,
and experiment, to venture into uncharted seas,
without fear of a tyrannical and vindictive God.
He does not set limits on my curiosity... (*Adapt.RFunk/hj*)

Silence

HYMN: Near the Cross #549

Crosby

Sending Out

May the God of dreams and visions,
enable you to dream creatively, and to hear
the dreaming of others,
young and old, in your community.
May you be open to new ideas,
dare to share visions,
be encouraged to hope. (*JSutch Pickard/bb*)

The Candle is extinguished

All may leave in silence ...

Thanks to Sarah Kervin, vocalist/pianist and Andrew Hartman, guitarist for leading this evening's musical worship.

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 16th, 2017

Easter Sunday, 9 & 11 am

Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18

“Love Wins!”, Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Preaching

No Evensong Service Today

Sunday, April 23rd, 2017

Second Sunday of Easter, 11 am

John 20:19-31, *“The Benefit of the Doubt”*

Associate Minister Bridget Kelso Anthony, Preaching

Evensong & Communion, 5:30 pm; Reflector: Porfirio Figueroa

Sunday, April 30th, 2017

Third Sunday of Easter, 11 am

Luke 24:13-35, *“Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time”*

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Preaching

Evensong & Communion, 5:30 pm; Reflector: Jennv Castillo Cato

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Interim Senior Pastor • **Bridget Kelso Anthony**, Associate Minister • **Eric Alderfer**, Director of Children’s Ministry • **Chris Whittaker**, Director of Music • **Laurrinda Hatcher**, Treasurer • **Diana Morales**, Administrative and Operations Manager • **Mary Lora**, Parish Administrator • **Lazaro Rodríguez**, Sexton • **Amable Morales**, Evening Receptionist • **Wilfredo Serrano**, Sexton

CONSISTORY

Elders: • Victoria Dillard • Beverley Sheares

Deacons: • Lorenzo M. Alsberry • Brian Plane • Zoe Reyes

Intersections Ministry Deacons: Anna Svahn

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