



Holy Saturday

**Holy Saturday, April 11, 2020**  
**8:00 a.m.**  
**MORNING PRAYER: RITE II**

*The Service begins on page 75 of The Book of Common Prayer.*

**PREPARATION FOR THE OFFICE**

The Opening Sentences for Holy Week

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;  
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.      *Isaiah 53: 6*

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow  
like my sorrow which was brought upon me, whom the Lord has afflicted.      *Lamentations 1: 12*

A Confession and Absolution

*Priest:*      Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All:*      **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Priest:*      Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All:*      **Amen.**

**INVITATORY AND PSALTER**

*Priest:*      O Lord, open our lips.

*People:*      **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*All:*      **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*All:*      **The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 95: 1-11 (*Venite, Recited by whole verse*)

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*Priest:*      1      Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

*People:*      2      Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

3      For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.

4      In his hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are his also.

5      The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,  
And we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,  
as your forebears did in the wilderness,  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test,  
though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said,  
“This people are wayward in their hearts;  
they do not know my ways.”
- 11 So I swore in my wrath,  
“They shall not enter into my rest.”

*All:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Psalm 88 (*Recited by whole verse*)

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- 1 O Lord, my God, my Savior,  
by day and night I cry to you.
- 2 Let my prayer enter into your presence;  
incline your ear to my lamentation.
- 3 For I am full of trouble;  
my life is at the brink of the grave.
- 4 I am counted among those who go down to the Pit;  
I have become like one who has no strength;
- 5 Lost among the dead,  
like the slain who lie in the grave,
- 6 Whom you remember no more,  
for they are cut off from your hand.
- 7 You have laid me in the depths of the Pit,  
in dark places, and in the abyss.
- 8 Your anger weighs upon me heavily,  
and all your great waves overwhelm me.
- 9 You have put my friends far from me;  
you have made me to be abhorred by them;  
I am in prison and cannot get free.

- 10 My sight has failed me because of trouble;  
Lord, I have called upon you daily;  
I have stretched out my hands to you.
- 11 Do you work wonders for the dead?  
will those who have died stand up and give you thanks?
- 12 Will your loving-kindness be declared in the grave?  
your faithfulness in the land of destruction?
- 13 Will your wonders be known in the dark?  
or your righteousness in the country where all is forgotten?
- 14 But as for me, O Lord, I cry to you for help;  
in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- 15 Lord, why have you rejected me?  
why have you hidden your face from me?
- 16 Ever since my youth, I have been wretched and at the point of death;  
I have borne your terrors with a troubled mind.
- 17 Your blazing anger has swept over me;  
your terrors have destroyed me;
- 18 They surround me all day long like a flood;  
they encompass me on every side.
- 19 My friend and my neighbor you have put away from me,  
and darkness is my only companion.

*All:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### THE LESSONS

*Reader:* A Reading from The Book of Lamentations. (3: 37-58)

Who can command and have it done, if the Lord has not ordained it? Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come? Why should any who draw breath complain about the punishment of their sins? Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord. Let us lift up our hearts as well as our hands to God in heaven.

We have transgressed and rebelled, and you have not forgiven. You have wrapped yourself with anger and pursued us, killing without pity; you have wrapped yourself with a cloud so that no prayer can pass through. You have made us filth and rubbish among the peoples. All our enemies have opened their mouths against us; panic and pitfall have come upon us, devastation and destruction. My eyes flow with rivers of tears because of the destruction of my people. My eyes will flow without ceasing, without respite, until the Lord from heaven looks down and sees. My eyes cause me grief at the fate of all the young women in my city. Those who were my enemies without cause have hunted me like a bird; they flung me alive into a pit and hurled stones on me; water closed over my head; I said, "I am lost."

I called on your name, O Lord, from the depths of the pit; you heard my plea, "Do not close your ear to my cry for help, but give me relief!" You came near when I called on you; you said, "Do not fear!" You have taken up my cause, O Lord, you have redeemed my life.

*Reader:* Here ends the reading.

**All: Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

*I. The Cosmic Order*

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord,  
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.  
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew,  
all winds and fire and heat.

Winter and summer, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold,  
drops of dew and flakes of snow.

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days,  
O shining light and enfolding dark.

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

*II. The Earth and its Creatures*

Let the earth glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,  
and all that grows upon the earth,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams,  
O whales and all that move in the waters.

All birds of the air, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild,  
and all you flocks and herds.

O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

*III. The People of God*

Let the people of God glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

**All: Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord,  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

*Reader:* A Reading from The Letter to the Hebrews. (4: 1-16)

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest is still open, let us take care that none of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For indeed the good news came to us just as to them; but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, “As in my anger I swore, “They shall not enter my rest,”” though his works were finished at the foundation of the world. For in one place it speaks about the seventh day as follows, “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” And again in this place it says, “They shall not enter my rest.” Since therefore it remains open for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he sets a certain day—“today” — saying through David much later, in the words already quoted, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not speak later about another day. So then, a sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God’s rest also cease from their labors as God did from his.

Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one may fall through such disobedience as theirs. Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, 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. For 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. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

*Reader:* Here ends the reading.

Canticle 19 (*The Song of the Redeemed, Revelation 15: 3-4, Recited by whole verse*)

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O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done,  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name?  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you,  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

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*All:*           **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
                  hallowed be thy Name,  
                  thy kingdom come,  
                  thy will be done,  
                          on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
                  as we forgive those  
                          who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
                  but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
                  and the power, and the glory,  
                  for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages A

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*Priest:*       Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*People:*       **And grant us your salvation.**  
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**Let your people sing with joy.**  
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**For only in you can we live in safety.**  
Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
Let your way be known upon earth;  
**Your saving health among all nations.**  
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day – *Holy Saturday*

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so may we await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer For Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Prayers of Petition, Intercession and Thanksgiving

The Blessing

*Priest:*       Let us bless the Lord.  
*People:*       **Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant may conclude with one of the following:*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*