

PRAYING
WITH JOHN
FOR
DEAR LIFE



Service of Midday Prayer for Holy Week

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

First Presbyterian Church, Gathered Online

Opening Sentences

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Ps. 124:8

Maker of heaven and earth.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Hymn 220

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete;
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

4. Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay:
all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Prayer

Christ our God,
your love is poured out in death for our sakes.
Hold us in your embrace
as we wait for Easter's dawn.
Comfort us with the promise that no power on earth, not even death itself,
can separate us from your love;
and strengthen us to wait
until you are revealed to us
in all your risen glory. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Before the lesson:

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:68
Hear the word of the Lord.

John 18:1-14

The Word became flesh and lived among us. John 1:14
And we have seen his glory. Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Hymn 218

Ah, Holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!
2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

3. Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

4. For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation,
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.

5. Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Dismissal

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**
Bless the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**