

***Simple Prayer, Simple Praise:***  
**A Worship Service for Friday, April 10, 2020 (*Good Friday*)**

**Opening Verse: (Sung or Spoken)**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh--Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble--Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Collect of the Day:**

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**An excerpt from today's Gospel According to John (19:16b-30):**

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, with Jesus between them. 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. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." 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; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." 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, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." 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), "I am thirsty." 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, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Response Verse: (Sung or Spoken)**

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh; Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; --Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

**Prayers:** (Respond "Amen" after each petition)

Let us pray for the Church, that God will confirm it in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Pray for all people and nations, that by God's help they may seek justice, truth, and peace.

Pray for all who suffer, that God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and inspire us in ministry.

Pray for all who do not know Jesus, that God will open their hearts and lead them to faith.

Take a moment now for silent reflection. Raise up family, friends, first responders and medical professionals in prayer using the words our Savior Christ taught us:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

**Final Verse: (Sung or Spoken)**

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh--Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble-- Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

**Closing Prayer:**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Join online worship with Bishop Rowe Easter Sunday at 10 am at this link: <https://zoom.us/j/127336938> and the password lakeerie. To join by phone instead of video, dial 646-876-9923 and use code 127336938#.**

**The Daily Office from the National Cathedral <https://cathedral.org/worship/>**

*Simple Prayer, Simple Praise* is produced for The Episcopal Dioceses of NWP and WNY by the Rev. Steve Lane and the Rev. Claudia Scheda, and guest contributors as noted. April, 2020.