



Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina

Good Friday

6:00 p.m.

April 3, 2026

*On this day the ministers enter in silence.
All then kneel for silent prayer as they are able.*

Officiant

Blessed be our God.

People

For ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant

Let us pray.

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.**

The people sit

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him
--so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals--
so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.
Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22 (*in unison*)

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; *
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- 16 Packs of dogs close me in,
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; *
they pierce my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones.
- 17 They stare and gloat over me; *
they divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.
- 18 Be not far away, O LORD; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- 19 Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
- 20 Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- 21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship
him.

- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

THE EPISTLE: Hebrews 10:16-25

The Holy Spirit testifies saying,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"

he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider

how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL HYMN: *Alone Thou Goest Forth, O Lord*

164

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN 18:1-19:42

At the mention of Golgotha, the people stand

and remain standing for the remainder of the reading as they are able

HOMILY

The Reverend Robert Hartmans

HYMN: *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

172

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

BCP 277

All stand as they are able.

HYMN: *My Song is Love Unknown*

1. My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me, love
2. He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but
7. Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di - vine: ne -
to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. O
men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know. But
ver was love, dear King, ne - ver was grief like thine. This
who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
O my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.
is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could glad - ly spend.

THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS

A rugged wooden cross is brought before the people

Officiant Behold the wood of the cross, on which hung the world's salvation.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOOD FRIDAY ANTHEM – *Anthem 1*

BCP 281

All kneel as they able

Officiant We glory in your cross, O Lord,
People **and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your cross
joy has come to the whole world.**

Officiant May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

People **Let your ways be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

Officiant Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

People **We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
for by virtue of your cross
joy has come to the whole world.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Traditional*)

BCP 364

Officiant Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your
passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls,
now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the
living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace

and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Service concludes in silence. You are welcome to remain in the Sanctuary in prayer.



LAY MINISTERS

Acolyte: Susan Robinson Lectors: Ali Schaefer, Vicki Vest
Intercessor: Kristen Dusenbery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Saturday, April 4

- 11:00 a.m. Prayers in the Urban Garden.
- 8:15 p.m Easter Vigil in Partnership with St. Mary's Episcopal Church: a service of light, Sacred Music, hearing of the salvation history, Chanted Exsultet. At St. Mary's Church (337 Charlotte Street). There will be incense.

Easter Day, April 5

- Joyful Easter Day worship with Music and ringing bells.
- Easter Day Reception.
- Easter Egg Hunt in the Urban Garden.

Flowers and Bells on Easter

On Easter Day, please remember to bring flowers and bells to the Easter service. We'll ring bells whenever we say "Alleluia!" during worship (and that's a lot of times!). Come prepared to make a joyful Easter noise! Also, bring cut flowers to help us flower the cross.



Grace Episcopal Church

871 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804

828-254-1086 * graceavl.com

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

office@graceavl.com

The Right Reverend José McLoughlin, *Bishop of WNC*

The Reverend Robert Hartmans

The Reverend Timothy McRee

The Reverend John Rice

Clergy

James Cassarino, *Director of Music*

Cathy Adkins, *Organist*

Anne Spruance, *Office Administrator*

Katie Douglas, *Finance Manager*

Angel Stoudt, *Sexton*

Paula Foggo

Caroline Parson-Chambliss

Trinity Mickens

Nursery Workers