

ALL SAINTS

HOLY DARKNESS.
BLESSED NIGHT

GOOD FRIDAY

All stand.

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Leader Blessed be our God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Leader Let us pray.

Silence

Holy and everliving God, look graciously on this your family for which our Savior Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to suffer death upon the cross; and grant us to grow into the fullness of new life in Christ who now is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Were You There



1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you



1. there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh!
2. there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!
3. there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!



1-3. Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM; FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO

John 19:1-16a

ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

The Peace of Wild Things

Wendell Berry

When despair grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting for their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

WOMAN, BEHOLD THY SON

A mother should not have to bury their child. My daughter could be your daughter, your niece, your granddaughter, your cousin. I don't need your sympathy. I don't need you to feel sorry for me. I just need you to have empathy. Put yourself in my shoes. What would you do? What would you want done?

-Nyisha Beemon, whose 18-year-old daughter, Jaya Beemon, was shot and killed in a shooting at a convenience store in February 2020

If the grieving mothers, who know each other's pain can come together and cry with each other, while crying out please don't make someone else feel like us. Please stop the crime, I don't want revenge for my child's death, I want peace so that I can live in peace and maybe we can make *some* difference if not *all*."

-Octavia Miller in a letter to the Chicago Tribune

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?

Psalm 22

The Refrain is sung by all:

My God, my God, why have you left me and where, where did you go?—

I THIRST

It sounds so vulnerable to me, so human, something a child would ask of a parent “may I have some water, please – I’m thirsty and I trust you to take care of me.” Something so fundamental and basic to any living creature. Something so life-giving, life-saving.

It feels like his last cry of being human, his last attempt to be seen as simply a person in pain. It reminds me that he walked among us, shared joy and felt love, felt pain like we do, experienced moments of comfort. It feels like his last cry of connection to the known world, even a world that has just treated him so cruelly.

At the same time, he uplifts us with this very human request. Jon Meacham links it to the Holy Eucharist, “do this in remembrance of me”:

When the people of God thirst, we turn to the altar and to the words of institution that Jesus used at the Last Supper, creating an act of remembrance...Jesus thirsted and was given a bit of vinegary wine. We thirst and we are given everything. He suffered that we might be saved. He died that we might live. - from “The Hope of Glory”

IT IS FINISHED

John 19:16b-34

FATHER, INTO THY HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT

Adoramus Te Christe

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

The solemn collects may be prayed kneeling, standing, or seated as any are able.

Leader Dear People of God: Our loving God sent Jesus into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life. We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

All **Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world; for all those who meet in homes on these holy days, for those isolated due to illness or age, that all your people might be one.**

Silence

Leader Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

All **Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, for all nations at war, especially Ukraine and Russia, and for those to whom their care is entrusted. That by God’s help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.**

Silence

Leader Gracious God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

