

Journey to the Cross

LENTEN VESPERS

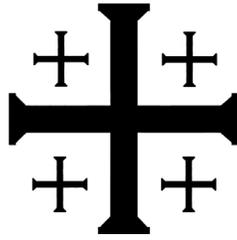


Sunday, March 21, 2021

6:00 PM

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Lent is a season of preparation for the great Paschal feast of Easter. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, the season of Lent lasts forty days (excluding Sundays, which are always feasts of our Lord's resurrection), recalling the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. During this season we are invited to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance, as we commit to prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on God's holy Word.



JOURNEY TO THE CROSS: LENTEN VESPERS

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021

The people's responses are in bold.

OPENING HYMN

For God So Loved the World

Sung by all, twice.

Lanny Wolfe (b. 1942),
arr. Evelyn Simpson Curenton (b. 1953)

For God so loved the world_____ that he gave his on - ly be - got - ten Son,_____ that
who - so - ev - er be - liev - eth on him should not per - ish, should not per - ish,
but they shall have, they shall have ev - er - last - ing life._____

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust.

You are the God of my salvation;
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

In you I hope all the day long.
O my God, in you I trust.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:14, 16)

Merciful God,

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The officiant offers absolution and the people respond, Amen.

ANTHEM

Weight of Your Glory

Sung by the cantor: Israel Houghton (b. 1971) and Raymond Boyd

The weight of your glory
Is bringing me to my knees.

In the holy of holies,
This moment of intimacy.

See into me,
Help me to change,
Let me be clean,
With trembling lips and hands,
I can barely stand,
Because of the weight of your glory.
The weight of your glory.

Because of the weight of your glory,
All I can say is, "Holy."
Holding your grace and mercy,
I bow down.

PSALM 51:1-13

Sung by the cantor:

chant: Daryl L. A. Hunt (b. 1970)
and Marshall Keys (b. 1955)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THE LESSON

John 15:13-17

Jesus said to his disciples, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Here ends the lesson.

ANTHEM

I Won't Be Troubled

Sung by the cantor.

Richard Smallwood (b. 1948)

Soon these trials will be over,
And I won't cry no more.
And I won't cry no more,
Down here.
Oh, no.
God will wipe away all my tears,
And I'll be free at last.
All my sorrows
Will be past,
Down here.
No more weeping,
No more wailing,
And troubles will be over down here.
God will wipe away all my tears,
And I won't be troubled no more.
All our sorrows will be left behind.
Only joy and love will be mine.
I won't be troubled no more
Down here.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR LENT

God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

The officiant prays over the people, and the people respond, Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love as the Lord commands.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Fall Down

Donnie McClurkin (b. 1959)

PARTICIPANTS

OFFICIANTS

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon for Worship

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.
Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion

MUSICIANS

Daryl L. A. Hunt
Associate Director of Music for Contemporary Worship

Imani-Grace Cooper, *singer*

Marshall Keys, *saxophone*

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LENT & EASTER 2021

MARCH 28 • PALM SUNDAY: THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Holy Eucharist with the Liturgy of the Palms • 11:15 AM ET

François Couperin's *Leçons de ténèbres* • 6:00 PM ET

APRIL 1 • MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Eucharist with the Stripping of the Altar • 7:00 PM ET

APRIL 2 • GOOD FRIDAY

Rite of Reconciliation (Confession) • 10:00–11:30 AM and 1:00–2:30 PM ET

Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday • 12:00 PM ET

APRIL 4 • THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY

Festival Holy Eucharist • 11:15 AM ET

Easter Organ Recital • 2:00 PM ET

FOR INFORMATION ON LENT AND EASTER

cathedral.org/easter

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Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.

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