

Good Friday Worship

April 18, 2025

Noon and 7:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church

2216 Peach Street, Erie, PA 16502

814-456-7596

www.StJohnsErie.org

Welcome to Worship

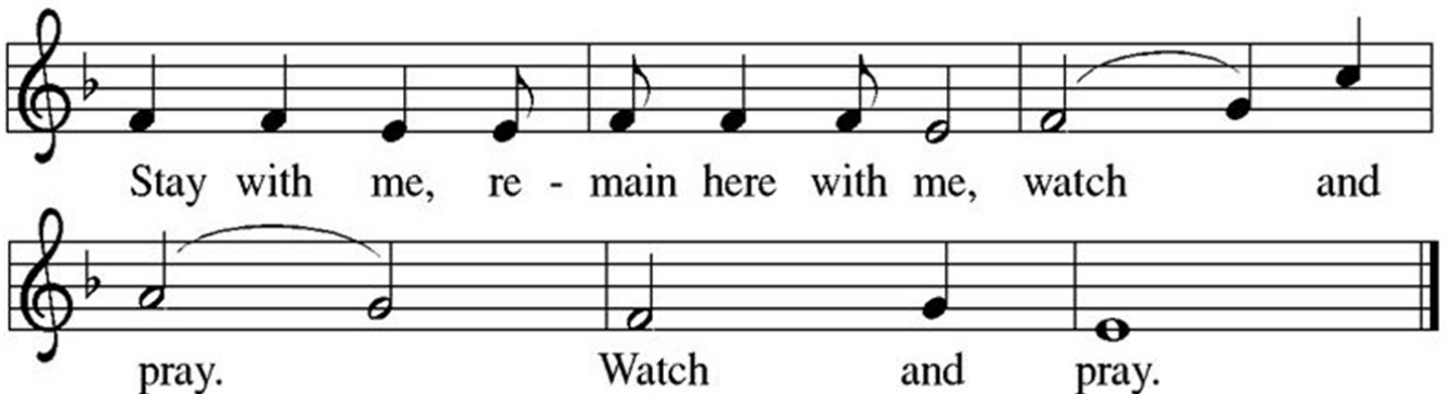
Invocation

P We gather on this most holy of days to remember the passion of our Lord. May we be united in our prayer, praying for our own needs and the needs of the entire world who wait and watch for Christ. In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Taizé Cantic

congregation sings 3 times



Call to Worship

L Our Lord Jesus knew suffering, pain, and death.

C He is the life and the salvation of the world.

L We have a great high priest who is able to sympathize with our weaknesses.

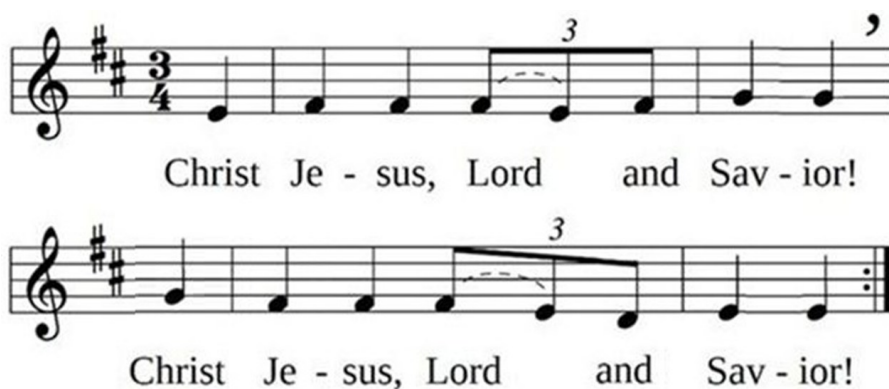
C Our Lord Jesus became the source of our eternal salvation.

L Our Lord Jesus bowed his head and gave up his spirit for our salvation.

C Therefore, we approach God's throne of grace with boldness.

Taizé Cantic

congregation sings 3 times



Christ Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior!

Christ Je - sus, Lord and Sav - ior!

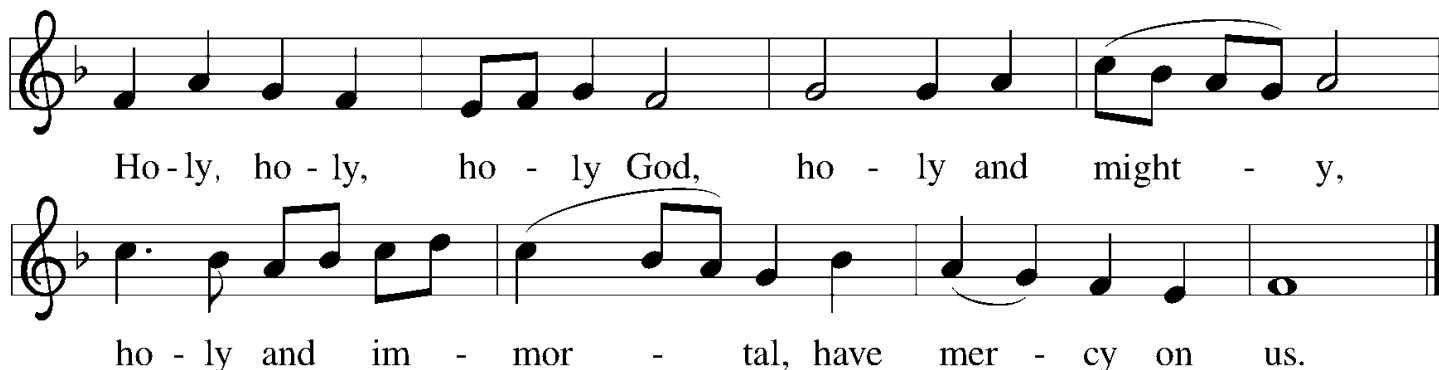
Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray together.

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, your Son, our Savior and Lord, took our sins upon himself, pouring himself out to death, death on a cross. On this holy day, we remember his suffering and the depth of his love for us. Strengthen us to be his disciples, to take up our cross and follow him. In the life-giving name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

The Trisagion "Thrice Holy"

congregation sings 3 times



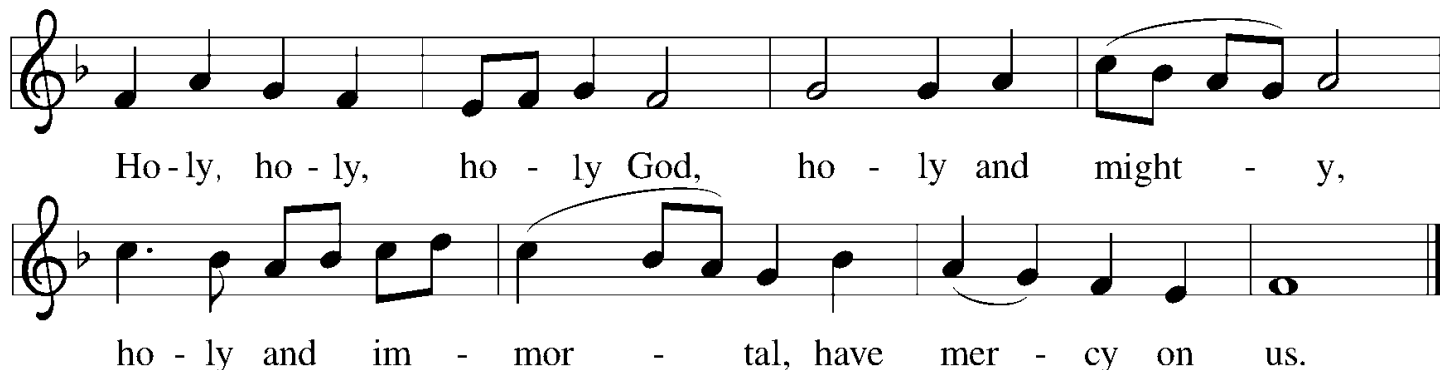
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,

ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

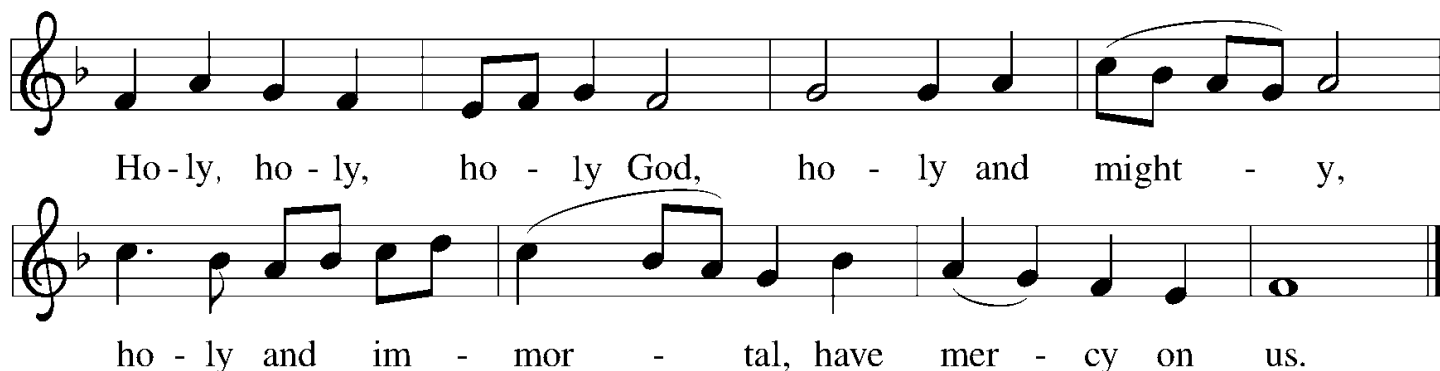
The Traditional “Reproaches”

congregation sings the “Trisagion” once after each Reproach

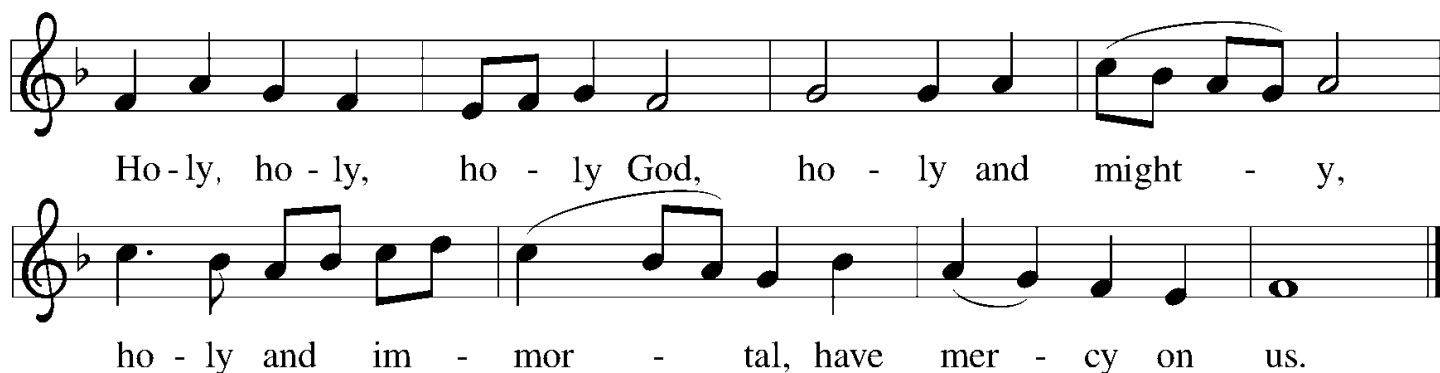
P O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of baptism, but you prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



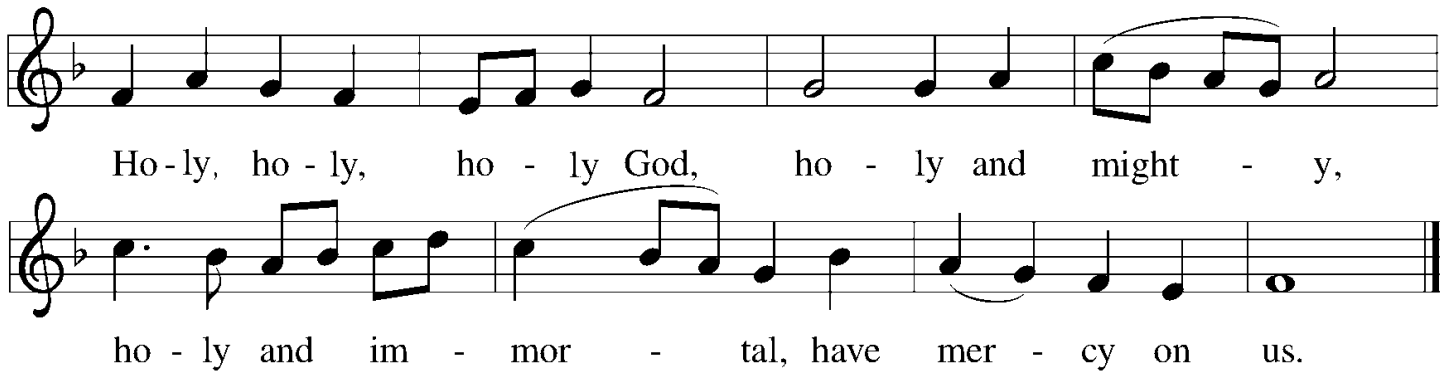
L O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear. I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



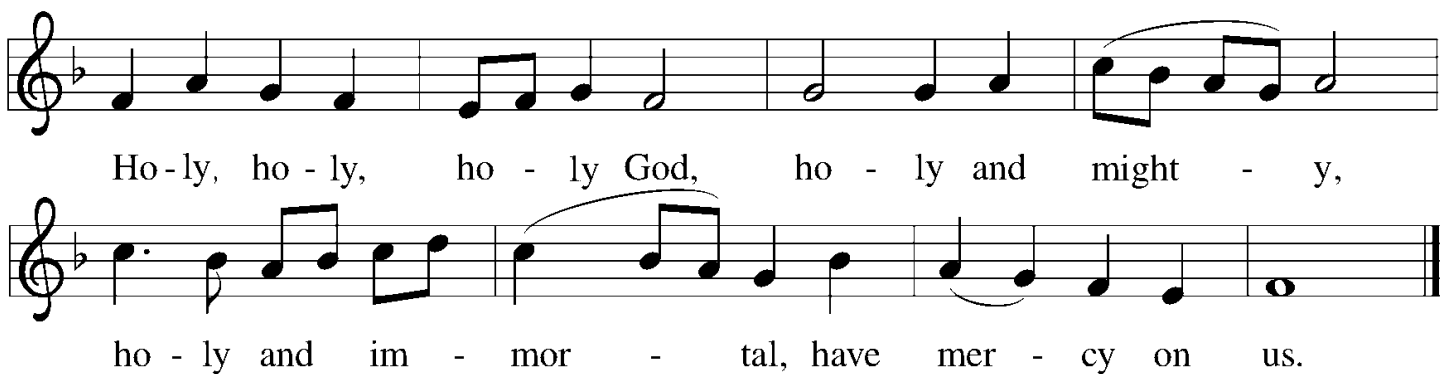
P O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way. I saved you from tribulation, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



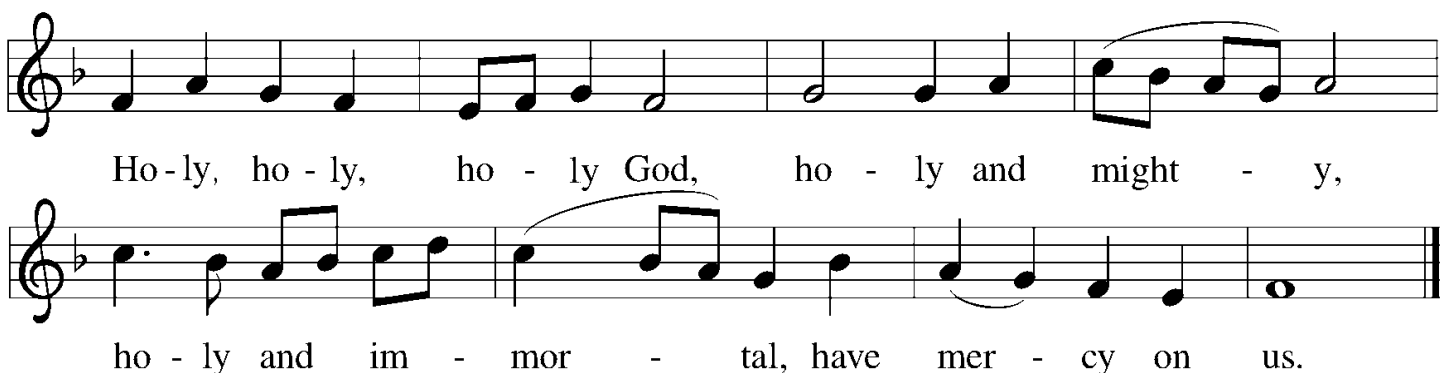
L O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire, but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



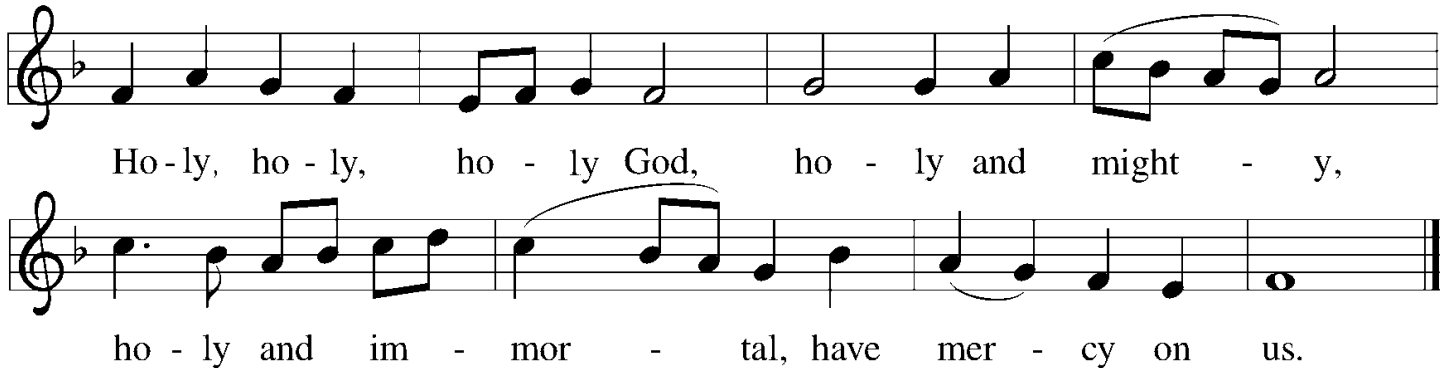
P O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink, and left me to thirst. I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



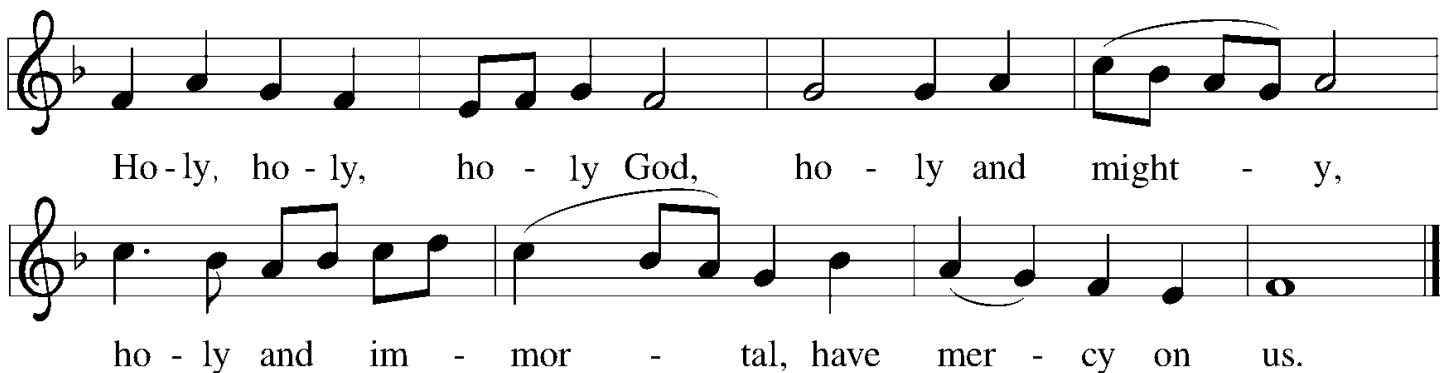
L O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I gave you rulers and leaders, but you gave me a crown of thorns. I gave you the keys of the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



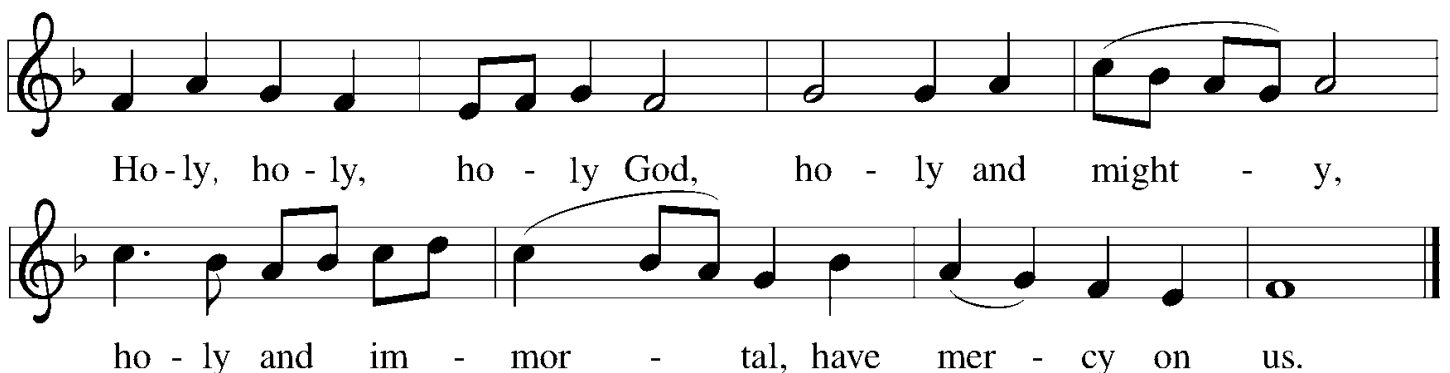
P O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I defended you against your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed. I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



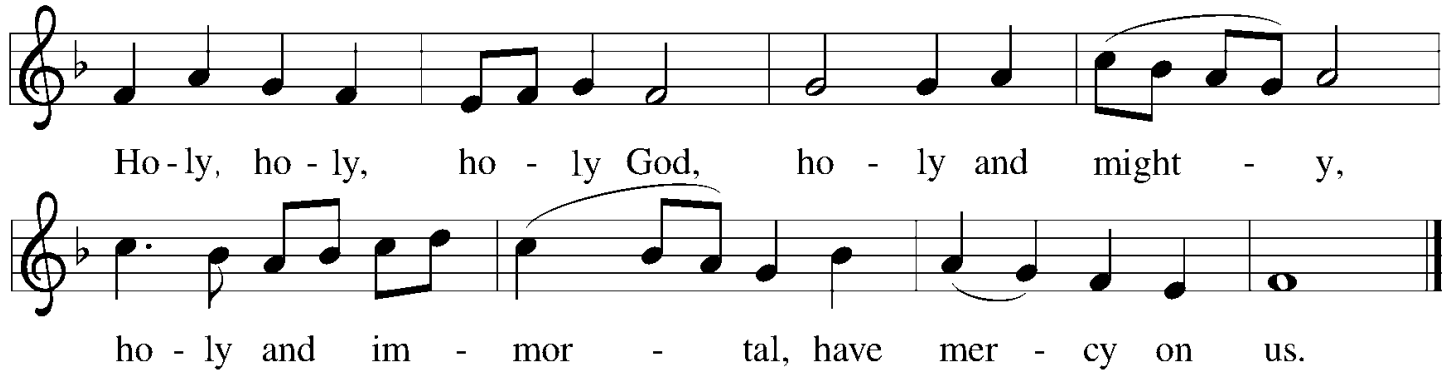
L O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross. I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



P O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters. I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



L O my people, what more could I have done for you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I made you branches of the vine and never left your side. I called you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *(all sing canticle once)*



The First Word of Jesus from the Cross

“Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”

P After Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified, two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus there, with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”



The Second Word of Jesus from the Cross

“Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

L They cast lots to divide his clothing. People stood by, watching. The leaders mocked him, saying, “He saved others. Let him save himself if he is the Messiah, God’s chosen one!”

The soldiers also mocked him saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence? We have been condemned justly, and we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth. Today you will be with me in Paradise.”



Taizé Cantic

congregation sings 3 times

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The Third Word of Jesus from the Cross

“Here is your mother.”

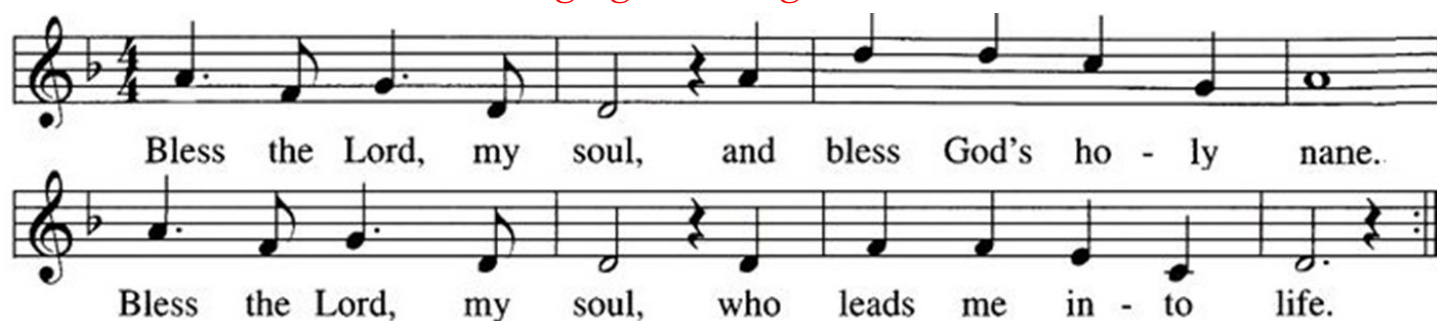
P Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son.”

Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, the disciple took her into his home.



Taizé Cantic

congregation sings 3 times



The Fourth Word of Jesus from the Cross

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

P From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”



The Fifth Word of Jesus from the Cross

“I thirst.”

L Aware that everything was now completed, to fulfill the scripture, Jesus said, “I thirst.”



The Sixth Word of Jesus from the Cross

“It is finished.”

L A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.

After Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.”



Taizé Cantic

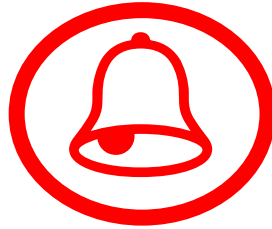
congregation sings 3 times



The Seventh Word of Jesus from the Cross

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

L The curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."



Taizé Cantic

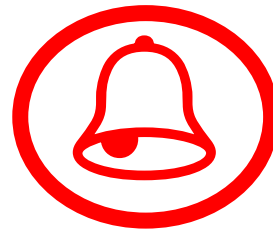
congregation sings 3 times

In - to your hands, O Fa - ther, I now com - mend my spir - it.

In - to your hands, O Fa - ther, I now com - mend my spir - it. In -

Last time ♯

P Having said this, Jesus breathed his last, and died.



Noon

“He Died”

written and sung by
Pastor Ralph Mineo

7:00 p.m.

“Were You There”

African American spiritual
St. John’s Chancel Choir

Today’s Message

“It Is Finished”

by Rev. Ralph Mineo

Introduction to the Prayers

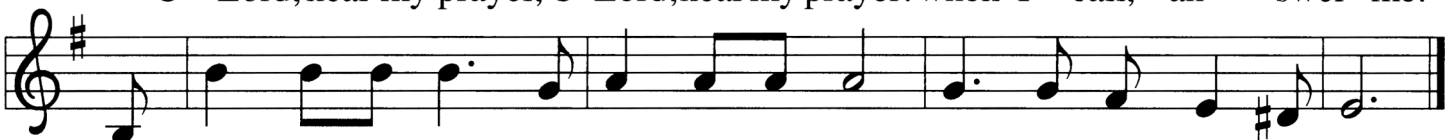
L Jesus willingly submitted to suffer in our place. Let us pray to God our Father, and place in his hands the suffering of the world.

Taizé Cantic

congregation sings 3 times



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

The Prayers

based on the words of Jesus from the cross

L God of life, as your Son, our Lord, forgave those caused his pain and death, like him, we pray today for those who have hurt us, or offended us. help us to live in a spirit of forgiveness and love.

As the crucified thief sought eternal life, we pray for the strength to always trust in your gift of eternal life. We pray that all our family members and friends will seek the love and eternal life found through faith in Christ Jesus.

As he asked John to take care of his mother, give us the heart of your Son to care for the needs of others, especially the most basic human needs. Unite as a family of faith.

As he cried out with feelings of being forsaken and alone, we pray for all who are lonely and desperate for human and divine connection.

As he cried out in thirst, we pray for all those who are in pain, those in the hospital, rehab, sick beds, and undergoing treatment. Send your healing to your children in pain.

As he placed himself in your hands, strengthen us to surrender our body, mind, heart, and soul into your saving hands. We place all our concerns, our future, our hopes and dreams into your loving care.

As he finished his life by a sacrifice on the cross, draw us everyday to give thanks for the eternal life and love you have given us, through our Lord and Savior, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

L We pray together as our Lord taught us to pray.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Sending Litany

P We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

P If we have died with him, we shall also live with him.

C If we endure with him, we shall also reign with him.

P We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Sending Taizé Canticle

congregation sings 3 times



We depart in silent prayer awaiting the Resurrection . . .

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