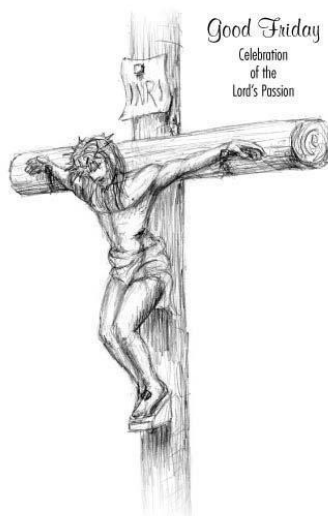


# Good Friday Service

April 3, 2026

6:00 pm



## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255

**Batesville, Arkansas 72501**

Main Street at Fifth

870-793-2203

### Today's Ministers

<i>Celebrant:</i>	Rev. Carolyne Adhola
<i>Eucharistic Ministers:</i>	Brenda & Nikki Bittle
<i>Lector:</i>	Virginia Wray
<i>Organist/Choir Director:</i>	Kristian Ameigh
<i>Readers:</i>	Kristian Ameigh, Brenda Bittle, Nikki Bittle, Steve Massey, Mike Mundy, Judy Purnell
<i>Ushers:</i>	Carol Crosby & Paul Hance
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Jo Cargill-Krug & Nelda Mitchell

# Good Friday Service

*At the sound of the bell, the people stand as the ministers enter in silence.*

*All then kneel for silent prayer, after which the Celebrant stands and begins the liturgy:*

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* Blessed be our God

*People:* **For ever and ever. Amen.**

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.*

## First Reading

**Isaiah 52:13—53:12**

*All sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 22***Deus, Deus meus*

- <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- <sup>4</sup> Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup> They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- <sup>7</sup> All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- <sup>8</sup> “He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
Let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”
- <sup>9</sup> Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.
- <sup>10</sup> I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.
- <sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.
- <sup>12</sup> Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- <sup>13</sup> They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- <sup>15</sup> 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.
- <sup>16</sup> 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.
- <sup>17</sup> They stare and gloat over me; \*  
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
- <sup>18</sup> Be not far away, O LORD; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- <sup>19</sup> Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.

- <sup>20</sup> Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- <sup>21</sup> I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- <sup>22</sup> Praise the LORD, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- <sup>23</sup> 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.
- <sup>24</sup> My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- <sup>25</sup> The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"
- <sup>26</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- <sup>27</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.
- <sup>28</sup> To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- <sup>29</sup> My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- <sup>30</sup> They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

## Second Reading

**Hebrews 10:16-25**

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

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*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn

## Hymnal 172

*Were you There When They Crucified My Lord*

## Passion Gospel

John 18:1—19:42

*All may be seated for the reading of the Passion Gospel. Specific roles may be assigned to different persons, the congregation taking the part of the crowd.*

*At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha all stand.*

*Celebrant:* The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*(Please refer to the Passion Narrative.)*

## Homily

### Solemn Collects

*Remain standing.*

*The Celebrant says to the people*

Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son 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 kneel, as able.*

*Intercessor* Let us pray for the holy catholic church of Christ throughout the world;  
For its unity in witness and service  
For all bishops and other ministers  
and the people whom they serve  
For *John*, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese  
For all Christians in this community  
That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Intercessor* Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;  
For *Donald*, the President of the United States  
For the Congress and the Supreme Court  
For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations  
For all who serve the common good  
That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* Almighty 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.*

*Intercessor* Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;  
For the hungry and the homeless, the destitute and the oppressed  
For the sick, the wounded, and the crippled  
For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish  
For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair.  
For the sorrowful and bereaved  
For prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger  
That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love,  
and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Intercessor* Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ;  
For those who have never heard the word of salvation  
For those who have lost their faith  
For those hardened by sin or indifference  
For the contemptuous and the scornful  
For those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his disciples  
For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others  
That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that they may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Intercessor* Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* 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.*

## Confession of Sin

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,  
for ever and ever. *Amen.***

## The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant may say the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

## **Closing Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*All kneel, as able.*

### ***Celebrant and People***

**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 Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.***

*No blessing or dismissal is added; the people leave in silence.*