

The Solemn Liturgy for
Good Friday
April 3, 2026
Twelve O'clock Noon
At New Goshenhoppen Church



The Reformation Sister Congregations
of the Upper Perkiomen Valley

Welcome to Worship on this Good Friday.

As we gather for worship on this Good Friday, the prelude is Samuel Barber's famous "Adagio for Strings" arranged for the organ. It is a haunting piece of music. Please listen in silence, pondering the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. When the piece comes to its gentle and hushed conclusion, the chimes will strike 33 times. Please rise in silence!

The Solemn Reproaches is an ancient text of Western Christendom associated with the Good Friday service. The reproaches follow the pattern of Psalm 78, which rehearses God's continuing acts of faithfulness and Israel's repeated rebellion.

Each reproach follows a similar pattern, calling to mind God's saving acts and concluding with the same words: "but you have prepared a cross for your Savior." Following each reproach the congregation responds with a prayer for mercy.

The liturgy continues with the hearing of God's Word, the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark, Good Friday Homily by Rev'd Compton, Hymn, The Solemn Collects, Hymn, The Lord's Prayer, and concluding prayer.

**The Lord is in His Holy Temple; let all the earth keep silence
before Him. – Habakkuk 2:20**

Good Friday Prelude

Adagio for Strings – Samuel Barber

*The Chimes Struck 33 times in remembrance of Christ's Life.

*The Solemn Reproaches for Good Friday

One: Behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

All: Come, let us worship. [three times as the cross makes its way into the sanctuary.]

One: O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

Testify against me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: I led you through the desert forty years,
and fed you with manna:

I brought you through tribulation and penitence,
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: What more could I have done for you that I have not done?

I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,
I made you the branches of my vine;
but when I was thirsty,
you gave me vinegar to drink and
pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.

I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,

but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.

I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,

but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: I gave you a royal scepter,

and bestowed the keys to the kingdom,

but you have given me a crown of thorns.

I raised you on high with great power,

but you have hanged me on the cross.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,

and washed your feet as a sign of my love,

but you draw the sword to strike in my name

and seek high places in my kingdom.

I offered you my body and blood,

but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: 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 call you to go and bring forth fruit,

but you cast lots for my clothing.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

One: I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;

I was hungry and you gave me no food,

I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,

I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,

naked and you did not clothe me,

sick and in prison and you did not visit me.

All: O God, holy and mighty, have mercy upon us.

*Greeting

Blessed be our God.

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, forever and ever. **Amen.**

From the Prophets

Isaiah 53

53 Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- 2 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,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
- 3 He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
- 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
- 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,

yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

9 And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.¹

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Silence

¹ *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Is 53:1-12.



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken 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.
- ³Yet you are the | Holy One,*
enthroned upon the prais- | es of Israel.
- ⁴**Our forefathers put their | trust in you;***
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.
- ⁵They 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.
- ⁷All who see me laugh | me to scorn;*
they curl their lips and wag | their heads, saying,
- ⁸**“He trusted in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;***
let him rescue him, if he de- | lights in him.”
- ⁹Yet 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.
- ¹¹Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,*
and there is | none to help.
- ¹²**Many young bulls en- | circle me;***
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.

¹³They open wide their ^l jaws at me,*

like a ravening and a ^l roaring lion.

¹⁴**I am poured out like water; all my bones are ^l out of joint;*
my heart within my breast is ^l melting wax.**

¹⁵My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the
roof ^l of my mouth;*

and you have laid me in the dust ^l of the grave.

¹⁶**Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers cir- ^l cle
around me;***

**they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count ^l all my
bones.**

¹⁷They stare and gloat ^l over me;*

they divide my garments among them; they cast lots ^l for my
clothing.

¹⁸**Be not far a- ^l way, O LORD;***

you are my strength; hast- ^l en to help me.

¹⁹Save me ^l from the sword,*

my life from the power ^l of the dog.

²⁰**Save me from the ^l lion's mouth,***

my wretched body from the horns ^l of wild bulls.

²¹I will declare your name ^l to my brethren;*

in the midst of the congregation ^l I will praise you.

Silence

*The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark

Good Friday Meditation

The Rev'd Mr. Compton

*Hymn: No. 219

They Crucified My Lord – Crucifixion

The Solemn Collects

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.

*The biddings may be read by a Deacon or other person appointed.
The Celebrant says the Collects.*

Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service
For all bishops, conference ministers, and other ministers
and the people whom they serve
For all Christians in this community

That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence

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.**

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

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.**

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

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.**

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

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 there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.**²

² The Episcopal Church, *The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church* (New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 2007), 277–280.

*Hymn: No. 225

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle – Fortunatus New

*The Lord's Prayer [using **debts** and **debtors**]

*Concluding Prayer

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 forever. **Amen.**

Please leave in the sanctuary in silence.

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For those joining in the Crosswalk that begins at 2:00 p.m. you are invited to "sit a spell" in the lower fellowship area and to meet on the lower parking lot where we will step off to make our journey to St. Mark's.

Worship Today

The Rev'd Deacon Ali Clark	Kencrest, Philadelphia
The Rev'd Kevin Compton	St. Paul's Lutheran, Red Hill
The Rev'd Steve Myren	Pennsburg UCC, Pennsburg
The Rev'd Nicholas Pence	Palm Schwenkfelder, Palm
The Rev'd Serena Sellers	St. Mark's Lutheran, Pennsburg
The Rev'd Becky Schanely	St. John's Lutheran, Green Lane
The Rev'd Stephanie Anne Thompson	Frieden's UCC, Sumneytown
The Rev'd Dr. David A. Williams	New Goshenhoppen, East Greenville

Greeters Tom Bancroft, Cindy Roma, Ted Kutt, Denise Fox

HOLY WEEK

Good Friday – April 3

12 Noon – Good Friday Solemn Liturgy

2:00 p.m. – Crosswalk from New Goshenhoppen to St. Mark’s

7:00 p.m. – Service of Shadows and Darkness at St. Mark’s

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Holy Saturday – April 4

11:00 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt (front lawn)

The First Service of Easter – The Easter Vigil Service

7:00 p.m. – New Goshenhoppen Church

Service begins in the upper parking lot with the Service of Light

Holy Communion – Rev’d Serena Sellers, Preaching

A dessert buffet will follow in Fellowship Hall.

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Easter Sunday – April 5

Christ has Risen. He has Risen Indeed!

7:00 a.m. – Easter Service (Prayer Meditation Wall)

followed by continental breakfast.

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – New Goshenhoppen Church

Holy Communion – Dr. David Williams, preaching



216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;
 the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 and from my strick - en heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.
 the won - ders of re - deem - ing love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

For sheer intensity of feeling few hymns can match this meditation on the cross; impressive images and strong contrasts combine to give the text its ardor. The passionate language is augmented by the highly chromatic tune later composed for these words.

They Crucified My Lord 219

He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word

1 They cru - ci - fied my Lord,
 2 They nailed him to a tree,
 3 They pierced him in the side, and he nev-er said a
 4 The blood came trick - a - lin' down,
 5 He bowed his head and died,

mum-ba - lin' word;
 they cru - ci - fied my Lord,
 they nailed him to a tree,
 they pierced him in the side,
 the blood came trick - a - lin' down,
 he bowed his head and died,

and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word.

Not a word, not a word, not a word.

The African American spirituals recalling Christ's Passion provide poignant evidence of the eloquence and empathy born of shared suffering. The call-and-response singing style also provides a means of affirming the communal wisdom expressed in recurring phrases and refrains.

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle 225

Capo 5: (Am) (Em) (Am) (Dm) (Am) (C) (Am)
 Dm Am Dm Gm Dm F Dm



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; tell the tri - umph
 2 God in mer - cy saw us fall - en, sunk in shame and
 3 Tell how, when at length the full - ness of the ap - point - ed
 4 Thir - ty years a - mong us dwell - ing, Je - sus went from
 5 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, be for all the

(Dm) (Em) (Am) (Em) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
 Gm Am Dm Am Dm Gm Dm



far and wide; tell a - loud the won - drous sto - ry
 mis - er - y, felled to death in E - den's gar - den,
 time was come, Christ, the Word, was born of wom - an,
 Naz - a - reth, des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,
 no - blest tree; none in fo - liage, none in blos - som,

(C) (Am) (Dm) (Em) (Am) (Dm) (Am) (G)
 F Dm Gm Am Dm Gm Dm C



of the cross, the Cru - ci - fied; tell how Christ, the
 where in pride we claimed the tree; then an - oth - er
 left for us the heaven - ly home, blazed the path of
 did his work and met his death; like a lamb he
 none in fruit your e - qual be; sym - bol of the

(C) (Dm) (Em) (Am) (Dm) (Em) (Am)
 F Gm Am Dm Gm Am Dm



world's re - deem - er, van - quished death the day he died.
 tree was cho - sen, which the world from death would free.
 true o - be - dience, shone as light a - midst the gloom.
 hum - bly yield - ed on the cross his dy - ing breath.
 world's re - demp - tion, for your bur - den makes us free.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This enduring and profound meditation on the mystery of the cross was written in Latin in the 6th century, translated into English in the 19th century, and revised in the 21st century. It is set here to a simple, dignified, and sturdy melody created for it in the 20th century.