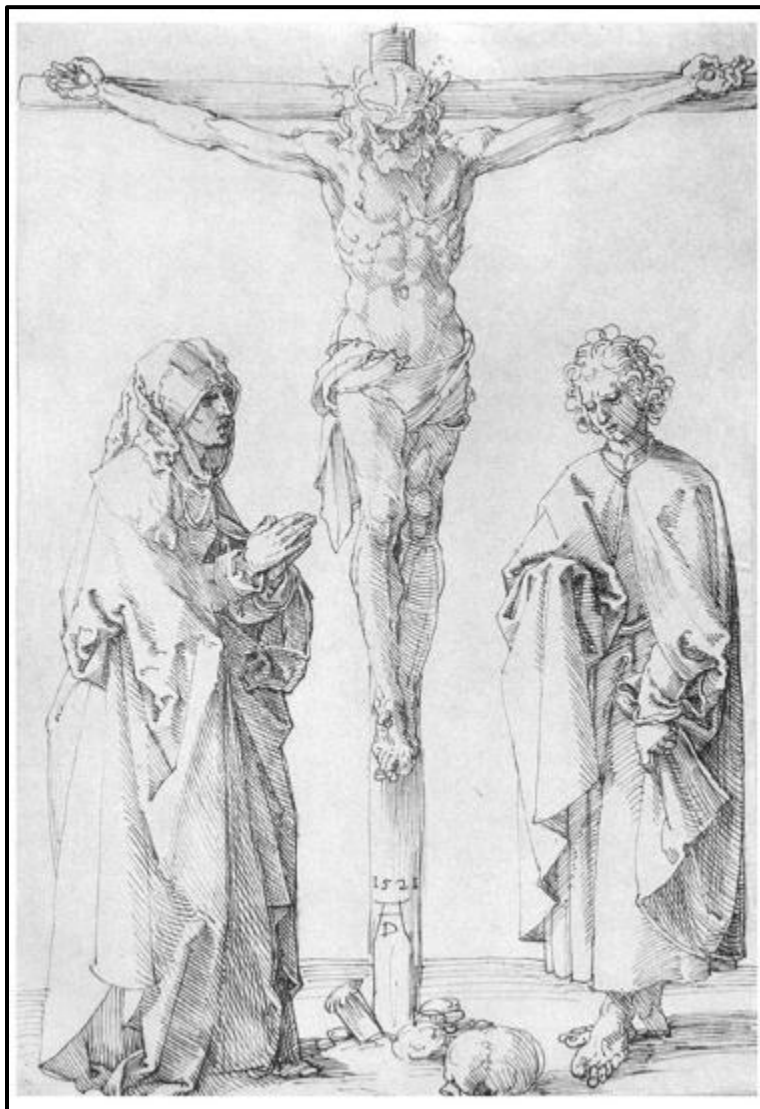


Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Good Friday



Friday, April 18, 2025

12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

The Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross

PREACHING OF THE SEVEN LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

12:00-3:00 PM

April 18, 2025

On this day the ministers enter in silence. All then kneel for silent prayer, after which the Officiant stands and begins the service with the Collect of the Day. Those in attendance may come and go during the anthems or hymns. Please exit quietly through the double doors into the hallway.

*Congregational responses are in **bold**. Hymns are to be found in the blue hymnal in your pew rack.*

The Officiant shall begin by reading the following

On this day our Lord was tried before the High Priest, then by Pilate, thereafter by Herod, and then by Pilate again; was scourged, mocked, and condemned to death. He was led out to Calvary and was crucified. At intervals He spoke the first three words from the Cross. From twelve o'clock until three, He endured the darkness of dereliction. At three o'clock, having uttered the other four words from the Cross, He bowed His head and died.

Officiant Blessed be our God.

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

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.**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Reader: Claire Singleton

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. The Word of the Lord. *People* **Thanks be to God.**

THE FIRST WORD

Choir Anthem: *God so loved the World*

John Stainer

When they came to the place called "The Skull," there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do." Luke 23:26-34

Meditation on the First Word: The Rev. John Nash, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Los Alamos.

One Minute of Silence

Prayers – Cynthia Biddlecomb, Deacon, ELCA (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.

O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that the mind which was in Christ Jesus during his last hours on the cross may also be in us.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, who when you were persecuted, did not persecute in return, and who on the cross prayed for those who nailed you there: implant in our hearts the virtues of gentleness and patience, that we may overcome evil with good, love our enemies, seek your peace, and evermore rejoice in your love. **Amen**

Intercessor: Let us pray God, our heavenly Father, to create within us new and contrite hearts and forgive us all our sins.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who hates nothing that you have made and forgives the sins of all who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Almighty and Everlasting God, who of your great mercy in Jesus Christ, your Son, grants us forgiveness of sin: grant us, we pray you, your Holy Spirit, that it may so rule our hearts, that we, being ever mindful of your mercy, may know the joy of your forgiveness; and, serving you in holiness and purity of life, may give continual thanks for all your goodness; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

THE SECOND WORD

Choir Anthem: *In silent pain the eternal Son*

John Bell

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying: "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" The other rebuked him, saying: "Do you not fear God since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:39-43

Meditation on the Second Word: The Rev. Sean Smith, Pastor, White Rock United Methodist Church

One Minute of Silence

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.
O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that our Lord Jesus Christ by the power of his holy cross, would draw all people to himself in willing confession and loving obedience.

O Lord Jesus, who of your infinite mercy accepted a penitent sinner on the cross: open your eyes of mercy, we pray, upon those who know your love yet delay giving you their full allegiance and devotion; and of your pity, hasten the day when all people, drawn to you by your cross, shall call you Lord and Master and rejoice in life dedicated to you.

Amen.

Intercessor: Let us pray the Lord Jesus Christ, that, when our life here upon earth shall end, we may be received by him in Paradise.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, who at the sixth hour ascended the cross for the redemption of the world and poured out your precious blood for our forgiveness: grant that when our life shall end we may joyfully hear you say to us, "Today you shall be with me in Paradise." **Amen.**

Silence

THE THIRD WORD

Choir Anthem: *Were you there?*

Traditional Spiritual

But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

John 19:25-27

Meditation on the Third Word: The Rev. Le Anna Brun, Missioner for Christian Formation, Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande

One Minute of Silence

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.
O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that we may all be moved by the holy example of our Blessed Lord to cherish true love and devotion to our parents and to seek their comfort and good at all times.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who on the cross, in unending love, provided for your mother: we implore you, by this your holy example, to awaken in the hearts of all children that love for their parents which finds its source in love of you, so that they may cherish them in every need and bless their days with constant devotion. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray the Lord God Almighty that he would graciously hear the cries of all in suffering or distress and grant them his aid and comfort.

Almighty and Everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak: may the prayers of those in any tribulation or distress graciously come before you, so that in all their necessities they may mark and receive your manifold help and comfort.

Amen.

Intercessor: Let us pray for the Ministers of the Word, for all people in the church, and for all the people of God.

Almighty and Everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all people in your holy Church, that every member of the same, in vocation and ministry, may truly and devoutly serve you; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence

THE FOURTH WORD

Hymn: 164 *Alone thou goest forth O Lord* NOTE: Hymns are found in the blue hymnal in your pew rack.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. About the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, eli, lama sabach-thani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
Matthew 27:45-46

Meditation on the Fourth Word: The Rev. David Elton, Pastor, The United Church of Los Alamos

One Minute of Silence

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.
O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray our Lord God that He will not forsake His creation nor permit the powers of evil to overcome the souls of people.

O God, Almighty Creator of heaven and earth, who holds in your hand all the might of people: forsake not your world, which your Son has redeemed by his cross, but which is under attack by the power of sin and the evils of humanity; that righteousness may be the health of every nation, and the glory of Christ's salvation be the sure possession of every heart. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that God may breathe, into the troubled spirits of all people, his divine Spirit of peace and consolation.

Lord Jesus, we pray you, by the loneliness of your suffering on the cross, be near to all that are desolate in pain or sorrow today. Let the grace of your presence transform their loneliness into comfort, consolation and holy fellowship with you, who are the sure refuge of the weary and heavy laden. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray to God, our Heavenly Father, that all people may be brought to him in repentance and faith.

Eternal Father, who in the sending of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, spoke peace to the world and, in the blood of his cross, has opened to all people the way to peace with you: turn all people to the cross and enflame every heart with your Holy Spirit, that all may accept in Christ the Way of Life, that following his holy example and burning with his zeal of service, all may become one in him. **Amen.**

Silence

THE FIFTH WORD

Hymn: 168 *O Sacred Head, sore wounded*

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the scripture), "I thirst." John 19:28

Meditation on the Fifth Word: The Rev. Marshall Cook, Pastor, White Rock Baptist Church

One Minute of Silence

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.
O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray Our Lord Jesus Christ, that, knowing the fellowship of his sufferings, we may, by his mercy and blessed comfort, be strengthened to endure the sufferings of this life triumphantly.

O Lord and Savior, who endured the cross for our sakes, and in bitter suffering of flesh and spirit atoned for our sins: we thirst for your healing strength: be present with us in our hours of pain, that by your love and mercy we, too, may endure. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that God would establish the faith of all Christians and keep them steadfast amid the trials of this present time.

O God, who rules the world from end to end and from everlasting to everlasting: speak to our hearts when courage fails, when we faint from fear, when our love grows cold, and when there is distress among the nations of the earth. Keep us resolute and steadfast in the things that cannot be shaken, abounding in hope and knowing that our labor is not in vain in you. Strengthen our faith, renew in us the love which never fails, and make us to lift up our eyes and see, beyond the things that are seen and temporal, the things that are unseen and eternal. **Amen.**

Silence

THE SIXTH WORD

Hymn: 158 *Ab, holy Jesus*

A bowl of vinegar stood there, so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it up to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." John 19:29-30

Meditation on the Sixth Word: The Rev. Mary Ann Hill, Rector, Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

One minute of Silent Meditation

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.
O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: Let us pray that we may ever remember our Lord's holy suffering and death for our redemption, and that we may daily die to sin and walk worthy of our vocation.

Almighty God, who, because of your great love for all people, gave your dearly beloved Son to die for us on the cross; grant us grace ever to bear in mind his most precious suffering and death, to deny ourselves and daily take up our cross and follow him. Give us a living faith in our Redeemer and a thankful remembrance of his death. Help us to love him more completely as we contemplate his overwhelming love for us. Grant that our sins will be put away, nailed to the cross, and buried in his grave, that they may be remembered no more against us. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us remember in prayer all the faithful whom you have called to eternal life, and rejoice in the blessed communion of all the saints in Paradise and on earth.

O God, before whose face the generations rise and pass away, the strength of those who labor and suffer, and the repose of the blessed dead: we rejoice in the communion of the saints; we remember all who have faithfully lived; all who have died; and especially those whom we love who now rest in you. Lift us into light and love; give us at the last our rest in you with those who have gone before us trusting in your resurrection. We ascribe to your name, with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven, all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Silence

THE SEVENTH WORD

Hymn: 166 *Sing my tongue the glorious battle*

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. Luke 23:44-46

Meditation on the Seventh Word: The Rev. Canon Colin P. Kelly III, Rector Emeritus, Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

One Minute of Silence

Prayers - Intercessor (All Kneeling)

Intercessor: Let us pray.

O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us:

People: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray you, O Lord.**

Intercessor: O God, whose well-beloved Son, when he died in agony on the cross, forsaken and rejected by people, knew you to be near, and with his last breath, committed his spirit into your hands: be with us, we pray you, when the hour of our departure comes, and grant us also a blessed end; so that, conscious of your loving presence, we may give our spirits, in full trust, into your eternal keeping, and awake in Paradise. **Amen.**

Intercessor: Let us pray to Almighty God to bring the faith of all who believe in Christ Jesus to a blessed consummation in the victory of the cross, life everlasting.

O God, Eternal Author and Giver of Life, who gave us your Son, Jesus, that in him we might have life that knows no end: finish our faith in the victory that overcomes the world, that, of your grace, and not of our deserving, we may be with you for evermore, and with all the

adoring host, praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in the home of life and love and light and peace eternal. **Amen.**

Silence

Hymn:474 *When I survey the wondrous cross*

The service concludes with the following prayer, said by the Officiant. No blessing or dismissal is added.

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 for ever. Amen.

Those present are asked to leave in reverent silence.

PLEASE NOTE: This solemn season preserves some of the oldest texts still in current use, and revisits the deepest and most fundamental Christian memories as we walk again with our Savior Jesus Christ, on the way of his Passion. At the same time, the services and ceremonies of Holy Week have in the course of Christian history been the occasion of, or have actively encouraged, hostility towards the Jews. Rather than interpreting the word to mean the specific leadership in Jerusalem at the time of the crucifixion, the 'Ioudaioi' of St John's Gospel have all too easily been identified with 'the Jews' as a whole, or more specifically those Jews who were neighbors of a Christian church. This places a double responsibility on the Christian community today: to be faithful to the act of collective memory, but also to be sensitive to the ways in which an unreflecting use of traditional texts can perpetuate a strain of Christian anti-Semitism. We repent of our sins and the sins done in the Church's name, and commit ourselves anew to the love of God and our neighbor that our Savior taught us.

— adapted from the Church of England

PARTICIPANTS

The Trinity on the Hill Chancel Choir

Ms. Louisa Singleton, Choir Director

Dr. Margaret-Mary Sauppé, Music Director and Organist

Dr. John Singleton, Associate Organist

Cynthia Biddlecomb, Deacon, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

The Rev. Marshall Cook; Pastor, White Rock Baptist Church

The Rev. David Elton; The United Church of Los Alamos

The Rev. Mary Ann Hill; Rector, Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

The Rev. Dr. Canon Colin P. Kelly, III; Rector Emeritus, Trinity on the Hill

The Rev. John Nash, First United Methodist Church

The Rev. Sean Smith, White Rock United Methodist Church