

## **Call to Thursday Night-Watch**

***We Rejoice. We Remember –***

We have entered our First Night-Vigil.

You are invited to watch and to wait

Watch and wait through this First Night

That we may be strengthened in our resolve

- To be washed and to wash others
- to serve all within us – which needs healing.
- and to serve all those amongst us –
- Who need the voice of love.

May our Night Watch,

And the coming dawn

Be our prayer and our communion

With all that is frail and rejected.

***We Rejoice. We Remember.***

## **This Planet of Pain**

(Matthew 23: 32-56, Mark 15: 21-41, Luke 33: 26-49)

Now we open

To the story of the Crucified and Risen One,

Arms stretched out across the chasms of fear,

Pulling factions into his own broken body,

Closer to his pierced heart,

So that this planet of pain

May one day claim as its own

The love flowing out from that

Sacred, broken heart.

Yes, pull us in, Spirit of the Living God,

Into the Heart of our hearts,

That we might once and for all

Lay down our arsenals of fear

And take up our tools  
To build the kin-dom of God  
For the sake of all creation

### **Closing Prayer**

O Holiness of Eventide,  
The Radiance of Day has faded.  
And the sun's face is hidden.

***We Rejoice. We Remember***

Now we turn to Moon and Stars  
Which decorate Your Dark Stillness

***We Rejoice. We Remember.***

In Your Darkness all life begins anew.  
By Your Grace, bring the stillness of  
Your night to our small selves.

We pray through The Christ,  
Our Communion, our Shalom. Amen

(Bruce Sanguin – “If Darwin Prayed”)



## Friday Morning Prayer

### Call to Prayer

*\*Light your candle*

O Fierce and Compassionate One

**We Rejoice. We Remember**

Night has again turned to day.

The soil of our feet and the prayer of our vigil

Are held in the waters of Your Washing Basin.

We pray that the water of this Basin

May also be the Cross of Jeru-Shalom

And that this Cross may be our joy –

Bringing a death to our small selves

And enlarging our life with each other in You.

We pray through The Christ,

Our Communion and our Shalom, Amen.

### **A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians:**

Christ sent me to preach the gospel,

But not with eloquent wisdom,

Lest the Cross of Christ

Be emptied of its power.

For the Wood of The Cross

Is folly to those who are perishing.

But to US who are being saved,

The Cross of Christ

Is the power of God. (silence – then continue)

The Christ sent me to preach Spirit's good news,

But not with eloquent wisdom,

Lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the Life of Love

Is folly to those who are perishing

But to We who are being transformed  
The Cross of Christ  
Is the power of our Oneness with You –  
Our Oneness with All.

## **Prayers of All People**

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

*(With each intercession we pause for silent prayer)*

For the Jewish people – our mother and father,  
brother and sister in faith.

For People of All Faiths and No Faith – our sisters and brothers

For All Women and Men Called to Spiritual Leadership

For All – who do the work of Charity and Mercy

For All – who work for Justice and Peace

For All – who labor to restore Creation

For the Marginalized, Afflicted, Oppressed, Sick and Dying

## **Closing Prayer**

O Fierce and Compassionate One

**We Rejoice. We Remember**

In self-less giving, You bow and wash

Stretch out on Knotted Wood, breathe upon Creation

And deliver Your radiance to Us.

This day – through You enable us to bow,

Wash, stretch, breathe, and deliver-over

Our small selves so that we may be ever more radiant in You.

Spreading Your radiance throughout our world.

We pray through The Christ,

Our Communion and Our Shalom. Amen

# A Time of Reflection For Good Friday Vigil

## Call to Friday Night Watch

*\*Light your candle*

O Holiness of Eventide,

We now enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> Night Watch,

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

You are invited to watch and to wait

Whether at home or in a chapel

Whether asleep or awake.

Watch and wait through Second Night

that through these hours of darkness

our prayers may awaken us:

- to a love of self emptying

- to an awe of fruitful stillness

- to a yearning for deeper union

In this Second Night Vigil

May our hunger for Oneness

With God and with each other be satisfied.

And by Divine grace bring us through Night To Saturday's Dawn.

We pray through The Christ, Our Communion and Our Shalom

Amen

**Light a vigil candle, gathering all those who are  
remembering this night.**

**We are gathered in spirit on this Good Friday**

Imagining our presence at the foot of the cross which calls us on,

Not in shame, not in fear

But more deeply into the costly journey towards life.

There is wounding, there is weeping

In Jesus as the Promised One,

God is not separated from that.

## **Prayer**

O God, true source of humanity,  
Mother and father of us all  
You renew us so we may grow like you.

### **We are gathered Together in spirit:**

From corner or limelight,  
From fears or from sadness,  
From hope or from gladness  
In close relationships or from separate lives.

### **We are gathered together in spirit:**

We who long for the company,  
The leveling and the deepest joys,  
Found in God's presence

### **We are gathered together in spirit:**

To meet the Divine, to celebrate God's love,  
And to rejoice in the possibilities that arise  
When we honor all the diversity of our humanity.

### **We are gathered together, one in Spirit.**

## **Reading 1 Luke 23: 1-32**

The elders of the people and the chief priests and scribes rose,  
And they brought Jesus before Pilate.  
They began their accusations by saying  
"We found this man inciting our people to revolt,  
Opposing payment of tribute to Caesar,  
And claiming to be Christ, a King."  
Pilate put Jesus this question,  
"Are you the king of the Jews?"  
"It is you who say it," Jesus replied.

## **Reflection 1**

I remember a man who had dreams of what might be:  
That people would be set free from ideas and images  
About god that enslaved them,  
That people would believe that through their  
Everyday acts of human kindness they are  
Intimately connected with the sacred,  
That people would live 'In peace, in God's presence  
All the days of their lives'  
I remember a man driven by his dreams.

## **Reading 2**

Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowds,  
"I find no case against this man."  
But they persisted,  
"He is inflaming the people  
With his teaching all over Judea;  
It has come all the way from Galilee,  
Where he began, down to here."

## **Reflection 2**

I remember a man who had his moments of breakthrough,  
When it must have seemed his dream was being realized;  
The times people really listened and responded,  
The men and women who were prepared  
To walk with him and support him,  
Times when he spoke better and more convincingly  
Than other times.  
I remember a man enthused by his successes.

### **Reading 3**

When Pilate heard this,  
He asked if the man was a Galilean.  
And finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction,  
He passed him over to Herod.  
Who was also in Jerusalem at that time.  
Herod was delighted to see Jesus;  
He had heard about him and had been wanting for a long time  
To set eyes on him; he was longing to see  
some miracle worked by Jesus.  
So Herod questioned Jesus at some length,  
But without getting a reply.

### **Reflection 3**

I remember a man who learned of the cruel death of his cousin.  
He got into a boat, seeking a lonely place,  
Where he could be with his friends  
To absorb the shock,  
To grieve quietly,  
And to calm the feelings of powerlessness and frustration  
And fear for his own future.  
I wonder what he prayed about that night?  
I wonder what helped him leave that lonely place  
And go forward to confront life,  
Rather than retreat into isolation and safety?  
I remember a man driven by his convictions.

## Reading 4

Then Herod, together with his guards,  
Treated Jesus with contempt and made fun of him;  
Herod put a rich cloak on Jesus,  
And sent him back to Pilate.  
And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before,  
They were reconciled that same day.  
Pilate then summoned the chief priests  
And the leaders and the people.  
“You brought this man before me,” Pilate said,  
“as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself  
In your presence and found no case against him, in respect  
Of all the charges you bring against him.  
Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us.  
As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death,  
So I shall have him flogged and then let him go.”  
But altogether they howled,  
“Away with him! Give us Barabbas!”  
Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again,  
But they shouted back, “Crucify, crucify him!”

## Reflection 4

I remember a man whose dream was shattered:  
Who broke down and cried over what could have been,  
Who knew the pain of failure and powerlessness,  
Who knew what it was like to feel broken and terribly alone.  
I remember someone human like all of us.

## **Reading 5**

Pilate then gave a verdict: their demand was to be granted.  
Pilate released Barabbas whom they asked for  
And who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder,  
And handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they pleased.

## **Reflection 5**

I remember a man who knew he was going to die:  
Who gathered with his friends, knowing it was for the last time,  
Who spoke to them about what he really believed,  
Who wanted them to remember him  
and to keep his dream alive.  
I remember a testament to love.  
We remember all this . . .

## **Reading 6 Luke 23:33**

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left.

## **Reflection 6**

I remember a man crucified.  
He was a failure, abandoned by his male friends,  
Taunted, despised, enduring a shameful and agonizing death,  
No consoling or heartfelt presence of his God to help him.  
I remember a man whose faith in all he believed  
Was tested to the limits.

## Reflection 7

I remember a man of extraordinary religious insight:  
Utterly convinced of the connectedness  
Between human loving and living in God,  
Determined to give people personal authority  
In their relationship with God,  
Wanting to set people free from fear of the unknown,  
Setting his heart on breaking down barriers between people...  
Thanks be to God for the ways in which the life,  
teaching, and death of **Jesus**, have set us **free**.

## An Affirmation of Faith

Let us commend ourselves into the hands of God.  
We believe in God around us, Dreamer and Sustainer of life.  
When there was nothing but an ocean of tears,  
God sighed over the waters and dreamed a small dream:  
Light in the darkness, a small planet in space.  
We believe in God beside us, Jesus as the Christ, dream made  
flesh.  
When Hate and fear were raging, when love was beaten down,  
When hope was nailed and left to die,  
Christ entered into our deep secret places  
And went down into our death to find us.  
We believe in God within us, Spirit who empowers the dream.  
Who weeps with us in our despair, who breathes on prison doors,  
Never admitting it's hopeless, always expecting  
the bars to bend and sway and break forth into blossom.

## **A Blessing**

Now may your heart be kept in peace and faith.

For nothing can separate you from God,

The Source of All Life, from Jesus, Eternal Word

Or from the Spirit of Wisdom - - AMEN



## Saturday Morning Prayer

*\*Light your candle*

### **Call to Prayer**

O Holy and Self-Emptying Silence

Night has again turned to day.

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

In this soft light of morning, we join with all creation

In contemplation. These are the hours of emptiness –

Little work done, few prayers spoken,

No music chanted. Breath of Our Oneness

Source and Font – from which All ushers Hold us in the stillness

And from this full emptiness, Breathe Us anew.

Ever instilling Your Oneness, amidst our Diversity.

We pray through The Christ, Our Communion and Our Shalom.

Amen

### **A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans:**

None of us lives as her or his own master, and none of us dies as his or her own master. While we live, we are responsible to The Christ,

And when we die, we die as The Christ's servant. Both in life and in death – we are The Christ's. This is why The Christ died and came to life again, that we might know The Christ is Sovereign over both death and life.

## **Prayers for All People - Closing Prayer**

In expectant Vigil may our hearts be readied

To renew our baptism and covenant.

May all who suffer and are in pain

Find strength in The Christ's selfless Love

And the compassion of our community.

O Holy and Self-Emptying Silence –

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

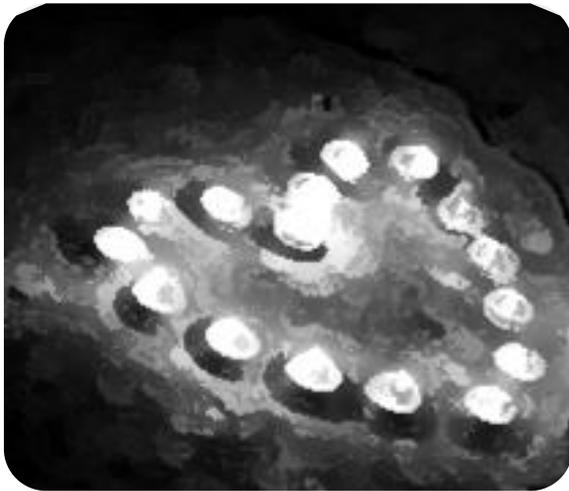
By Your Grace – Ever Bury Us with The Christ

In the dark stillness of Your Tomb,

That we may also ever rise with You in brighter radiance.

We pray through The Christ,

Our Communion and Our Shalom. AMEN



## Late Saturday Afternoon Prayer

*\*Light your candle*

### **Call to Prayer**

O Holy Stillness, O Full Emptiness

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

We have watched and waited through these hours of daylight.

Anticipating The Great Night to come.

May our prayer – That All Be One – be efficacious.

May our ears be open, our eyes fresh,

May we see and hear and feel Wisdom's shimmering heart

In the lives of those who have walked before Us.

We pray through The Christ,

Our Communion and Our Shalom.

Amen

### **A Reading from the First Letter of Peter**

O Come to The Christ, Come to that living stone,

Rejected by others but in the Holy One's sight –

That living stone is chosen and precious;

So be living stones. Be living stones.

Together building yourselves as holy priesthood.

And giving yourselves as a sacrifice worthy of the One Breath.

## **Closing Prayer**

O Holy Radiance, as light begins to fade –

We Rejoice. We Remember.

We anticipate You as a Pillar of Fire,

Illuminating our holy darkness

And by your grace – leading us through our Third Night-Watch.

Join Us – ever more – in a death with The Christ

And so make Us and ever radiant Oneness

With You, with each other and with ALL

We pray through the Christ, Our Communion and Our Shalom

AMEN



## Call to Saturday Night Watch

*\*Light your candle*

**We Rejoice. We Remember.**

We pray, sing and breathe, within our 3<sup>rd</sup> Night Watch,  
The Great Night Vigil.

Continue to watch and to wait

Whether asleep or awake.

Watch and wait through this Great Night.

Watch and wait – that All May Truly Be One –

All Within Us – One. . . All Among Us – One

All throughout Creation – One

Tomorrow we Celebrate the Resurrection of The Christ!

### Prayer

**We Rejoice. We Remember**

Holy, Holy, Holy, is Your Name

O Healer of our One Heart

Come now this Night

Pour down Your Spirit

Pour down Your Grace

Ever Create in Us –

One Heart, vulnerable and open to All

Hold us through every Night to Your Dawn

Holy, Holy, Holy is your Name.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunset/Leaving The 72 Hours

**We Remember. We Rejoice.**

*Jesus is Risen! Death is NO More! Alleluia!*

Night is near. Now we bid farewell to our 72 Hours –  
Now we begin our return to our everyday life.

*Jesus is Risen! Death is NO More! Alleluia!*

We pray through the Christ, Our Communion and Our Shalom

*Jesus is Risen! Death is NO More! Alleluia!*

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter:

The end of all things is at hand,

therefore keep sane and sober for your prayers.

Above all, hold unfailing your love for one another.

Since love covers a multitude of errors.

Practice hospitality ungrudgingly with one another.

As each has received a gift, employ it for one another,

As good stewards of the Holy One's varied grace ...

So that in everything the Source of All,

may be glorified through you, in Jesus the Christ.

Amen

### **Prayers for All People**

For All who have kept watch during theses 72 hours – Alleluia

For All Travelers – within and without – Alleluia

For All who are Oppressed, Afflicted and in Need – Alleluia





*Our Mission:*

*"Inspired by Christ, our mission is to love and serve  
with all people in restoring all of creation  
to God's loving embrace"*