

# Holy Saturday

*The Officiant says*

Let us pray.

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### A Lesson from the book of Job

“Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble. He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not. And do you open your eyes on such a one and bring me into judgment with you? Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one. Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass, look away from him and leave him alone, that he may enjoy, like a hired hand, his day.

“For there is hope for a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grow old in the earth, and its stump die in the soil, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put out branches like a young plant. But a man dies and is laid low; man breathes his last, and where is he? As waters fail from a lake and a river wastes away and dries up, so a man lies down and rises not again; till the heavens are no more he will not awake or be roused out of his sleep. Oh that you would hide me in Sheol, that you would conceal me until your wrath be past, that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me! If a

man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my service I would wait, till my renewal should come.

*(Job 14:1-14)*

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**Our Psalm this morning is number 130, which we will read responsively by whole verse.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

*O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!*

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

*But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

*O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!*

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

*But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.*

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

*my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.*

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

*And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**A Lesson from the first letter of the Apostle Peter**

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

*(1 Peter 4:1-8)*

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

## **A Lesson from the Gospel of Matthew**

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After

three days I will rise.’ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

*(Matthew 27:57-66)*

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

## **The Anthem**

*The following is then said together*

Man born of woman has but a short time to live,  
and is full of misery.

He springs up, and is cut down like a flower;  
he flees like a shadow,  
and never continues the same.

In the midst of life we are in death:  
of whom do we seek strength,  
but you, O Lord,  
who for our sins are justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy,  
O Lord most mighty,  
O holy and most merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the pains of eternal death.

You know, O Lord, the secrets of our hearts;  
shut not your ears to our prayer;  
but spare us, Lord most holy,  
O God most mighty,  
O holy and merciful Savior,

most worthy Judge eternal,  
do not let us, in this our final hour,  
through the pain of death, fall away from you.

*The Officiant and People together pray the Lord's Prayer. The concluding doxology is customarily omitted.*

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. Amen.

*The Officiant concludes*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*(2 Corinthians 13:14)*