

# *St. Matthias Anglican Church*

The Proto-Cathedral Parish of the Diocese of Mid-America  
The Reformed Episcopal Church



## *Good Friday*

Bidding Prayers  
Reproaches  
Tenebrae



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¶ Fourteen candles shall be lit outside of the sanctuary rail on the two candelabras. Between the two shall stand the Christ candle (unlit).

¶ The minister will announce when it is time to stand

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**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** **(STANDING)**

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*[A hymn may be sung]*

¶ After the singing of a hymn (if sung), the officiant shall process to the Christ candle.

∞ Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness.

℞ **He is gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.**

¶ Here the minister shall light the Christ Candle

∞ And the light shineth in darkness,

℞ **And the darkness comprehended it not.**

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**WELCOME**

**(SITTING)**

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**W**ELCOME to this evening's observance of Good Friday. Our service includes several ancient Good Friday traditions. The BIDDING PRAYERS are petitions contained in the Collects from the Book of Common Prayer ending with the Lord's Prayer. THE REPROACHES contrast God's goodness with the faithlessness of God's people in a series of versicles and responses. The TENEBRAE is a Latin word that means "darkness" or "shadows." The service comes from the monastic tradition where, along with other daily worship, "Tenebrae" was the last service on the eves of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Tonight, we will hear again the Passion narrative from the four Gospels. We will witness our Saviour's betrayal in the Garden; we will travel the Via Dolorosa (or Way of Sorrows) with Him; we will hear His last words; and we will lay His body in the tomb. In keeping with the Tenebrae tradition, the candles and lights within the Church will gradually be extinguished until we are left sitting in total darkness. This darkness symbolizes the apparent victory of the powers of darkness at Jesus' death and the darkness that covered the earth during the crucifixion. After each passage, I will ask a different parishioner to come forth and extinguish a candle to stress our participation in the rejection

and death of our Messiah. Once in darkness, we will sound the strepitus (loud noise) symbolizing the earthquake that occurred when Jesus died and the sound of the stone being rolled in front of the tomb. At this point the service is over. We will exit the Church in silence and return home contemplating the silence and darkness of the tomb in which our Savior was laid. We must also contemplate the darkness of our sin that led our Savior to the Cross.

But we also remember that our redemption is not accomplished solely by His death. We must come to His empty tomb on Sunday morn and celebrate the Resurrection and His victory over death. For without the Resurrection, His death means nothing.

Let us now petition God to behold and bless us as we worship Him and meditate upon the crucifixion of Jesus Christ the Messiah.

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### THE BIDDING PRAYERS

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*Minister:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with thy Spirit.**

*Minister:* Let us Pray. (*All Kneeling*)

**A** LMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**A** LMIGHTY God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now liveth and reigneth we thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

**A** LMIGHTY 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 thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church, that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**O** MERCIFUL God, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor desirest the death of a sinner, but rather that he should be converted and live; Have mercy upon all who know thee not as thou art revealed in the Gospel of thy Son. Take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy fold, that they may be made one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

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

**O** UR 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.

*[A hymn may be sung]*

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**THE REPROACHES**

**(KNEELING)**

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**O** MY people, what have I done unto thee; or wherein have I wearied thee, saith the Lord? Testify against me. Because I, the Lord thy God, brought thee forth from the land of Egypt; thou hast prepared a cross for thy Saviour.

*People:* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy upon us.**

**B**ECAUSE I, the Lord thy God, led thee through the desert forty years, and fed thee with manna, and brought thee into a land exceeding good: thou hast prepared a cross for thy Saviour.

*People:* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy upon us.**

**W**HAT more could I have done for thee that I have not done, saith the Lord thy God? I indeed did plant thee, O my vineyard, exceeding fair, and thou art become very bitter unto me: for vinegar thou gavest me to quench my thirst, and thou hast pierced with a spear the side of thy Saviour.

*People:* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, Have mercy upon us.**

**I**, THE Lord thy God, did scourge Egypt with her first-born for thy sake: and thou hast scourged me. I led thee forth out of Egypt, through the Red Sea: and thou hast delivered me unto the chief priests. I did open the sea before thee; and thou hast opened my side with a spear.

*People:* **O my people, what have I done unto thee; or wherein have I wearied thee, saith the Lord? Testify against me.**

**I** DID go before thee in the pillar of cloud: and thou hast brought me unto the judgment hall of Pilate. I did feed thee with manna in the desert: and thou hast stricken me with blows and scourges. I did give thee to drink the water of life from the rock: and thou hast given me to drink gall and vinegar.

*People:* **O my people, what have I done unto thee; or wherein have I wearied thee, saith the Lord? Testify against me.**

**I** DID smite kings for thy sake: and thou hast smitten my head with a reed. I did give thee a royal sceptre: and thou hast set upon my head a crown of thorns. I did raise thee on high with great power: and thou hast hanged me upon the gibbet of the Cross.

*People:* **O my people, what have I done unto thee; or wherein have I wearied thee, saith the Lord? Testify against me.**

*[A hymn may be sung]*

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**THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS**

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**W**E venerate thy Cross, O Lord: and praise and glorify thy holy Resurrection: for by virtue of the Cross joy hath come to the whole world. God be merciful unto us and bless us.

*People:* **And show us the Light of His Countenance, and be merciful unto us.**

**W**E venerate thy Cross, O Lord: and praise and glorify thy holy Resurrection: for by virtue of the Cross joy hath come to the whole world. O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

*¶ The Cross is unveiled and may be gazed upon for meditation during the Tenebrae. After removing the veil, the officiant shall say,*

**B**ehold the Cross of Christ displayed; Whereon the Saviour of the world did hang.

*[A hymn may be sung]*

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**THE TENEBRAE**

**(SITTING)**

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*¶ The Officiant will ask an individual in the congregation to come forward and extinguish a candle after each lesson and accompanying response. The final candle will be extinguished by the Officiant.*

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**READER #1**

**THE AGONY OF GETHSEMANE**

**LESSON 1**

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**T**HEN cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, "Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder." And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death; tarry ye here, and watch with me." And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt." And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is

weak.” He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, “O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.” And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. (Matthew 26:36-44) And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. (Luke 22:43-44) Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, “Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.” (Matthew 26:45)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 1* ✠

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**READER #2**

**THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST**

**LESSON 2**

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**A**ND immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, “Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely.” And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, Master, master; and kissed him. (Mark 14:43-45) But Jesus said unto him, “Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?” When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword? (Luke 22:48-49) Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. (John 18:10) Then said Jesus unto Him, “Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?” In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, “Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.” But all this was done, that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled. (Matthew 26:52-56)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 2* ✠

**READER #1****THE SANHEDRIN****LESSON 3**

**A**ND they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders were assembled. But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end. Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death; but found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses, and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest arose, and said unto him, "Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witness against thee?" But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, "I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus saith unto him, "Thou has said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, "He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy. What think ye?" They answered and said, "He is guilty of death." Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands. (Matthew 26:57-67)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 3* ✠

**READER #2****PETER'S DENIAL****LESSON 4**

**A**ND when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them. But a certain maid beheld

him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, "This man was also with him." And he denied him, saying, "Woman, I know him not." And after a little while another saw him, and said, "Thou art also of them." And Peter said, "Man, I am not". And about the space of one hour after, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is a Galilaeen." And Peter said, "Man, I know not what thou sayest." And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, 'Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.' And Peter went out, and wept bitterly. (Luke 22:55-62)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 4* ✠

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**READER #1**

**JESUS APPEARS BEFORE PILATE**

**LESSON 5**

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**T**HEN led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover. Pilate then went out unto them, and said, "What accusation bring ye against this man?" They answered and said unto him, "If he were not a malefactor, we would not have delivered him up unto thee." Then said Pilate unto them, "Take ye him, and judge him according to your law." The Jews therefore said unto him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spake, signifying what death he should die. Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, "Art thou the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered him, "Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." Pilate therefore said unto him, "Art thou a king then?" Jesus answered, "Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the

truth heareth my voice." Pilate saith unto him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, "I find in him no fault at all." (John 18:28-38)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 5* ✠

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**READER #2**
**LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED**
**LESSON 6**


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**N**OW at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, "Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?" For he knew that for envy they had delivered him. When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, "Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him." But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said unto them, "Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you?" They said, Barabbas. Pilate saith unto them, "What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?" They all say unto him, "Let him be crucified." And the governor said, "Why, what evil hath he done?" But they cried out the more, saying, "Let him be crucified." When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it." Then answered all the people, and said, "His blood be on us, and on our children." (Matthew 27:15-25)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 6* ✠

**READER #1**

**THE SCOURING OF CHRIST**

**LESSON 7**

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**A**ND so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified. And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called the Pretorium; and they called together the whole band. And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head, and began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And thy smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him. (Mark 15:15-20)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 7* ✠

*[A hymn may be sung]*

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**READER #1**

**SIMON, A CYRENIAN  
AND THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM**

**LESSON 8**

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**A**S they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people, and of women which also bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning unto them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming in the which they shall say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps which never gave suck.' Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us;' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?" (Luke 23:26-31)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 8* ✠

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**READER #2**
**THE CRUCIFIXION**
**LESSON 9**


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**A**ND they brought him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, the place of a skull. And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not. (Mark 15:22-23) There they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.' And they parted his raiment, and cast lots. And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.' And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, and saying, 'If thou be the King of Jews, save thyself.' And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, "This is the King of the Jews." (Luke 23:33-38)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 9* ✠

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**READER #1**
**THE PENITENT THIEF**
**LESSON 10**


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**A**ND one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, "If thou be Christ, save thyself and us." But the other answering rebuked him, saying, "Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss." And he said unto Jesus, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." And Jesus said unto him, "Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:39-43)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 10* ✠

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**READER #2**

**MARY AND JOHN**

**LESSON 11**

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**A**ND it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. (Luke 23:44) Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, "Woman, behold thy son!" Then saith he to the disciple, "Behold, thy mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled saith, "I thirst." (John 19:25-28)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 11* ✠

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**READER #1**

**THE DEATH OF CHRIST**

**LESSON 12**

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**A**ND at the ninth hour, Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is to say, 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?' Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, "This man calleth for Elias." And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. (Matthew 27:46-48) When Jesus therefore had receive the vinegar, he said, "It is finished." (John 19:30) And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit," and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. (Luke 23:46)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 12* ✠

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**READER #2**
**TRULY, THIS WAS THE SON OF GOD**
**LESSON 13**


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**A**ND behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent. (Matthew 27:51) The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain up the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. (John 19:31-34) Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God." (Matthew 27:51, 54)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 13* ✠

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**READER #1**
**THE PREPARATION OF THE BODY**
**LESSON 14**


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**A**ND, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: (the same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. (Luke 23:50-52) And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. Then took they the body of Jesus, and

wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. (John 19:39-40)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

✠ *Extinguish candle 14* ✠

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**OFFICIANT**

**THE SEPULCHRE**

**LESSON 15**

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¶ *Officiant reads last lesson standing at the Christ Candle*

**N**OW in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never a man yet laid. (John 19:41) And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. (Matthew 27:59-60)

*Officiant:* O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,

*People:* **Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.**

¶ *The Officiant shall extinguish the Christ Candle by blowing it out with a loud breath and then recesses with the cross. Then shall the Strepitus be sounded.*

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The congregation departs in complete silence.