Sola Publishing Worship Worksheet

Good Friday

March 26, 2027

Good Friday (Year B)

The solemnity of this day is one that can bring us to tears as we reflect on our sinfulness and contribution to Jesus' death. In his last moments, Jesus entrusted his mother's care to the disciple he loved. Knowing that his time was almost gone, he uttered, "I thirst." When he received his last sip of sour wine, he proclaimed to all who could hear, "It is finished." Darkness took over even as God continued to act.



This Week's Scripture Texts

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:13 — 53:12 **Despised and Rejected**

The prophet foreshadowed what would happen to Jesus at his death as he described the Suffering Servant, calling him a man of sorrows, one acquainted with grief. This one was pierced for our sins and crushed because of our disobedience.

Psalm 22 **Anguished Cries**

The gut-wrenching cries of Jesus on the cross were previously uttered by the psalmist in his distress: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Alternate Psalm 31 **I Am in Distress**

This psalm exhibits the agony of one who is suffering and distressed. The words of Jesus in his dying throes are cried by the psalmist here: "Into your hand I commit my spirit."

Second Lesson: Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9 **Our High Priest Knows Our Weakness**

Jesus, our great high priest, is familiar with our afflictions and sufferings since he himself experienced them. He, however, was one without sin, and thus his prayers were heard.

Gospel Lesson: John 18:1 —19:42 **Jesus is Arrested and Crucified**

John narrated the final days of Jesus' life as he was betrayed by his friends, arrested, taken to trial, and crucified. Pilate placed a plaque above his head saying, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." We see this same symbol- INRI - in our churches.

Suggestions for the Day:

- *Liturgical Color: Black or none.*
- *Use the Apostles' Creed.*
- *Keep the chancel simply adorned after Maundy Thursday's stripping of the altar. Place black shrouds on the altar and other furniture in the worship space as appropriate.*
- *Consider using many candles to light the chancel instead of electric light to create a solemn mood as the sun goes down and the worship space grows dark.*
- *There is a Good Friday service template on the Lent Seasonal page of SOWeR along with other resources for the day's worship. Use the chorale readings found there to give the Gospel a dramatic effect.*

Suggested Hymns for Worship

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Beneath the Cross of Jesus	107	---	---	338	142	142
Ah, Holy Jesus	123	---	---	349	133	133
Go to Dark Gethsemane	109	---	436	347	145	145
Were You There?	92	---	456	353	147	147
Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed?	98	---	437	337	143	147
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded	117	---	449	352	149	149
In the Hour of Trial	106	---	---	---	141	141
Jesus, in Your Dying Woes	112	---	447	---	113	113
Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross	---	---	---	335	140	140
Jesus, I Will Ponder Now	115	---	440	345	---	---

*The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV = With One Voice, ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB = The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC = The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."*

Contemporary Songs

Praise Song Titles

The Power of the Cross
(CCLI# 4490766)
Grace to Grace
(CCLI# 7057218)
Mighty Cross
(CCLI# 7067580)
Crucified with Christ
(CCLI# 1860578)
Only a Lamb
(CCLI# 4242189)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.

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