

WORSHIP KIT

Creative cations Communications Sample

GOD'S WILL IS DONE

A SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

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By Justin Rossow. Children's message and prayers by Mark Zimmermann. Art and design: Lindsay Taylor. © 2018 Creative Communications for the Parish, a division of Bayard, Inc., 1564 Fencorp Dr., Fenton, MO 63026. 800-325-9414. www.creativecommunications.com. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA. Purchase of this kit gives the purchaser the copyright release to use the material in any format for use in worship.

GOD'S WILL IS DONE

A SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

ABOUT "THY WILL BE DONE"

"Not as I will, but as you will," Jesus prayed to his Father the night before he went to the cross for our salvation. And that is our prayer as well this Lent as we seek to do God's will in our lives, as we draw near to the observance of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection during Holy Week. Written by Rev. Justin Rossow, each service in the series focuses on a different aspect of God's will at work among us. Biblical characters are used as insightful reference points each week to guide us in following our Lord more nearly day by day.

For each service the kit contains

• sample bulletins with complete orders of service • monolog sermons (in character role) or outlines for a regular sermon • children's message • prayers • music for the accompanist

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to Jeff Greunke for excellent contemporary music selections and worship flow support.

Thanks to Rev. Richard Rossow for thinking through creative worship and helping shape the final product.

Thanks to Roxanne Smith for reading and praying all of the prayers and making substantive comments and encouragement.

Thanks to Rev. Matt Hein for camaraderie and an excellent Palm Sunday sermon.

Thanks to Conrad Gempf for creative writing and creative editing of midweek monologs.

And special thanks to St. Luke Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, MI, who were the first to worship with this Lenten material.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Additional resources are available from Creative Communications for the Parish. Contact us for current pricing and availability. Call us at 1-800-325-9414. Or visit our website: www.creativecommunications.com.

Bulletins For Good Friday Kit:

Code TWD (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWH (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWN (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

A Complete Series For The Weeks Of Lent Is Available:

Those who desire may supplement this service with other services for all of Lent. They are available as a kit and include all the Leader's Guide features described above. The kit includes a CD-ROM (Mac/PC) in RTF format with text of services and of bulletins, plus PDF files of the kit, and PowerPoint documents for use on screens. Kit Code TWU

Ash Wednesday

God's Will and God's Promise • Abraham and Isaac

By faith, Abraham trusted the will of God when he promised that a son would be born to him.

God's will was done when that son, Isaac, was born, and God's will was done when his Son, Jesus,

came into the world to redeem his people.

Week 1

God's Will and My Inadequacy • Moses

At first, Moses did not think he could free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. But God gave him confidence to set his people free. In Lent we remember that God sent his Son to do his will and set all people free from the slavery of sin.

Week 2

God's Will and My Dreams • David

Anointed by God to rule in Israel, King David followed God's will to shepherd his people, but often failed to live up to God's dream for him. We welcome the Good Shepherd into our lives who fulfills God's dream perfectly to gather his wandering sheep into the sheepfold of heaven.

Week 3

God's Will and My Identity • Mary

In humility, Mary dutifully accepted the role God had given her to become the mother of our Savior. That Son would later accept his role, faithfully following the path his Father had in mind for him to save us all.

Week 4

God's Will and My Worldview • Paul

On the road to Damascus, Paul had his worldview turned upside down when God called him to preach the name of the Christ he had been persecuting. We follow God's will by putting the crucified Christ at the center of our worldview.

Week 5

God's Will and My Response • Lydia

Lydia followed the will of God by responding in faith and hospitality when the Gospel message of Christ's sacrifice was preached to her. We follow the will of God by responding in love and service to one another in return for what Christ has done for us.

Bulletins For The Six-Week Kit:

Code **TWP** • Pre-printed bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code TWS • Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code TWR • Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 14"

Holy Week Services To Complete The Series:

Those who desire may supplement this series with other services that continue the series format and theme. Each is ordered separately and includes all the Leader's Guide features described above, except the CD.

Or, order all four service kits together. As a bonus, orders for all four kits include a CD-ROM (Mac/PC) with text of services and of bulletins in .rtf (rich text format). All four kits • Code **TW9**

Palm Sunday

God's Will When We Are Not Willing

We are not always willing to do what God asks of us, but in his Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, Christ reveals to us that even tough roads are worth traversing for the good of the Kingdom.

Code TWZ • Kit

Code TWY (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWW (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWX (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

Maundy Thursday

God's Will and Joyful Service

Christ asks his disciples to wash one another's feet, as he washed theirs, for the joy that was set before him. Serving one another with joy is a tribute to him who is the Servant of All.

Code TW5 • Kit

Code **TWUC** (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code **TWG** (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code **TWL** (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

Easter Sunday

God's Will for the New Creation

When Christ rose from the tomb, he opened the door to a new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. God's will for us as Easter people is to fix our eyes on the new creation of perfect paradise prepared for us in heaven.

Code TW7 • Kit

Code TWE (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWJ (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWO (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

You can also order the Ash Wednesday service alone:

Ash Wednesday

God's Will and God's Promise • Abraham and Isaac

By faith, Abraham trusted the will of God when he promised that a son would be born to him.

God's will was done when that son, Isaac, was born, and God's will was done when his Son, Jesus, came into the world to redeem his people.

Code TW4 • Kit

Code TWUB (printed) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWF (blank) • 8.5" x 11" bulletins

Code TWK (blank) • 8.5" x 14" bulletins

Other Resources:

Code TWU1 • Bookmark • 7" x 2 1/2"

Code TWB7 • Promotional Bulletin Insert

Code TW8 • Display Posters • 11" x 17"

Code PHTW • Cloth Banner Suitable For Worship

Bible Study Resources:

Code **TWSG** • Thy Will Be Done Student Guide

Code **TWLG** • Thy Will Be Done Leader's Guide

GOD'S WILL IS DONE

A SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY

NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Thy Will Be Done special service for Good Friday. In this service we remember that on the cross Christ followed through with the will of God, crying out, "It is finished" as he breathed his last. This ultimate sacrifice serves as a model to look at our lives as a holy sacrifice to him.

BULLETIN NOTICE

In this service for Good Friday, we remember that on the cross Christ followed through with the will of God, crying out, "It is finished" as he breathed his last. This ultimate sacrifice serves as a model to look at our lives as a holy sacrifice to him.

GOD'S WILL IS DONE

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COMPLETE SCRIPT FOR WORSHIP LEADERS

• If desired, an **Environmental Projection** is shown on a screen or on the walls of your worship space to set the tone for the service before the service begins or throughout the service at various points:

https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/crucifixion-jesus-christ-symbol-gods-love-519965833

• This **Theme Verse** is read aloud by the pastor at the start of the service or is read silently by the congregation before the service begins:

"It was the will of the LORD to crush him." Isaiah 53:10

• The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Jesu Kreuz, Leiden Und Pein 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy Passion; With your Spirit me endow for such meditation. Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish Of your suff'ring, pain, and death that I may not perish.

Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction, Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion; Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you, How you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your Passion; But its cause to me make known and its termination. For I also and my sin brought your deep affliction; This the shameful cause has been of your crucifixion.

If my sins give me alarm and my conscience grieve me, Let your cross my fear disarm, peace and pardon give me. Grant that I may trust in you and your holy Passion; If his Son forgives anew, God must have compassion.

Jesus, Lord, my heart renew, let me bear my crosses, Learning humbleness from you, peace despite my losses. May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior, That I may in heav'n above sing your praise forever!

• The **Introduction** is spoken by the pastor:

P Our worship service tonight is a continuation of the worship that began Maundy Thursday evening, and will not be concluded until we join together on Easter Sunday. Our service therefore neither begins with an invocation, nor ends with a benediction, since the events we mark this evening are neither the beginning nor the end of the story.

The word "tenebrae" means shadow, and as our Tenebrae service unfold tonight, the shadows will grow. This is the hour of darkness. We gather to hear the seven last words of Jesus from the cross, and combine them tonight with Scripture that points us to God's will being done here, on the cross, for us.

• The **Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

P O Jesus, how can I ever understand the depth of your suffering, the depth of your love? O Father, how can I fathom what you did in order to rescue someone like me? How could your will be to crush your own beloved Son so my sin could be cleansed? O Holy Spirit, draw me to the cross this day; give me a heart to receive this gift, to marvel at the cost, and to stand in awe that the Father's will was done for me. Amen.

• The **Children's Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

Note: a picture of the cross

P Hello, boys and girls. Today is Good Friday, What happened on this day? (Allow the children to respond.) That's right. Jesus died on the cross this day. (Hold up picture of the cross.) The cross is a reminder to us that Jesus did the will of God, and went all the way to the cross to die for our sins and give us everlasting life.

In the Garden of Gethsemane one night before, Jesus said, "Not my will, but yours be done." Jesus knew that he had come to this earth for this very reason, and he obeyed God's plan for him.

God has plans for us, too, and he calls us to do his will, too. He calls us to take up our crosses and follow Jesus. What does that mean? That means taking up those things that are hard for us to do sometimes and we do them for the sake of Jesus, who sacrificed himself for us.

We tell people about Jesus, even when it is hard. We show love to people even if they are not always nice to us. We pray even when we are tired and we go to church even when we don't always want to, because we love and trust in our Savior, Jesus, and we know that we cannot live our lives without him.

One verse of a hymn helps us to remember to keep looking to the cross to guide us in our lives: Here is how the verse goes:

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee. In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Let the saving message of the cross shine through the gloom of today and keep leading you forward in your life. With Jesus abiding with us every day of this life and in the life to come, we have no need to fear anything ever again. Let us pray:

Dear Jesus, thank you for going all the way to the cross for the forgiveness of our sins and our life everlasting. Help us to follow your will all the way to heaven, where you are seated on the throne above forevermore through your victory over death. Amen.

P The **Offering** is collected at this time. If desired, this **Mini Movie** (purchased by you from Worship House Media: worshiphousemedia.com) is presented on a screen at this time for reflection on the theme of the service:

http://www.worshiphousemedia.com/mini-movies/12988/the-cross

- Seven candles are lit on or near the altar.
- **The First Word**, Luke 23:32-34, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.
- A Reading, Luke 13:34-35, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"
- This Meditation is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P This is not what Jesus wanted.

Of course, he didn't want the pain. Of course, he didn't want the humiliation. Of course, he didn't want the mocking, the beating, the spitting, the dying. But even more than that, Jesus never wanted these people, his people, to reject their rightful King.

And this execution among common criminals is the ultimate rejection of Jesus' claim to be the one who brings God's will and God's Kingdom reign on earth as in heaven.

This is not what Jesus wanted.

The flogging and crucifixion are breaking his body, but what breaks his heart is love, love that wanted to bring these very people into the kingdom reign of God.

That love now speaks an amazing word, a word almost too wonderful to understand: Father, forgive them.

Not judgment, not hate, not vengeance. Even now Jesus stretches out his arms as a hen might gather chicks under her wings; he stretches out his hands to receive nails, and still he prays, Father forgive them.

We learn that later many became followers of the Way: some who stood at the foot of the cross and laughed and spat and cursed Jesus as he died would later call him God and Lord. But for now, they reject his saving will completely.

And in the face of that rejection, Jesus persists. Jesus is unwilling to give up on them, even as they crucify him. Jesus is unwilling to give up on you, no matter how devastating your betrayal, how deep your rejection, how persistent your sin.

In response to those who would push him away, Jesus continues to reach out nail-pierced hands as he prays for the very people who put him on the cross, Father, forgive.

- The first candle is extinguished on or near the altar.
- A **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered, was all for sinners' gain; Mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;

Look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.

- **The Second Word**, Luke 23:35-43, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed 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."
- A Reading, 1 Timothy 2:3-6, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

- This **Meditation** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P We kind of like it when people get what's coming to 'em. We have little sympathy for people who are just getting what they deserve.

But God our Savior desires all people to be saved. Think of that! Our Savior doesn't want people to get what's coming to 'em; Jesus doesn't want you to get what you deserve.

Jesus desires all to be saved, even this thief, even this common criminal who deserves the death that's coming to him.

The cross is Jesus being mediator and ransom at the same time. The cross is what Jesus is willing to do in order to save people who deserve death. The cross in all its ugliness is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior—because the cross means the kingdom reign of God is coming into our ugly circumstances, even in the midst of sin and the consequences of sin; even in the face of death.

"Remember me when you come into your kingdom," the sinner prays. And to this sinner who deserves death, the dying King replies, "Today ..."

Do you want to see God's reign and rule come? Do you want to see God's Kingdom will be done?

Then, you, sinner who deserves death, look on your crucified King, and pray, "Remember me, Jesus ... and don't give me what I deserve."

- The second candle is extinguished on or near the altar.
- A **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

Be thou my consolation, my shield when I must die; Remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh. Mine eyes shall then behold thee, upon thy cross shall dwell, My heart by faith enfolds thee. Who dieth thus dies well.

- The Third Word, John 19:25-27, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P 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 nearby, 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.
- A Reading, Matthew 6:9-13, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
- Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
- This **Meditation** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:
- P It's sometimes called The Family Prayer, the family prayer of the people of God. This Family Prayer is how Jesus taught his disciples to pray: "Our Father ..." it begins, and by naming God our Father, it names us one family, the family of God ...

Our Lord, on the cross, is living out the Lord's Prayer. Jesus, on the cross, is hallowing God's name. The cross is God's kingdom coming and God's will being done on earth as in heaven.

And the result of Jesus living out the family prayer is a new family, a family of God, marked by daily bread (this is my body, broken for you) and forgiving our debtors (Father, forgive them). The result of Jesus living out in his body the Our Father is a family led not into temptation, but delivered from evil: Jesus crushes the tempter's head even as the devil, that old snake, strikes his heal.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, and John, the disciple Jesus loved, stand together at the foot of the cross. As Jesus speaks through the pain, we hear the beginning of a new family, the family of God. This family stands under the shadow of the cross and prays in faith together for God's Kingdom reign to come and God's kingdom will to be done, on earth, among us, in our families, as it is in heaven.

• The third candle is extinguished on or near the altar.



• The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Jesu Kreuz, Leiden Und Pein 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy Passion; With your Spirit me endow for such meditation. Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish Of your suff'ring, pain, and death that I may not perish.

Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction, Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion; Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you, How you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your Passion; But its cause to me make known and its termination. For I also and my sin brought your deep affliction; This the shameful cause has been of your crucifixion.

If my sins give me alarm and my conscience grieve me, Let your cross my fear disarm, peace and pardon give me. Grant that I may trust in you and your holy Passion; If his Son forgives anew, God must have compassion.

Jesus, Lord, my heart renew, let me bear my crosses, Learning humbleness from you, peace despite my losses. May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior, That I may in heav'n above sing your praise forever!

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CONTEMPORARY MUSIC SONG SUGGESTIONS

• The following song suggestions can be used for a more contemporary worship service in place of the more traditional hymns included in this kit. Rights to use these songs in the service must be purchased by your parish through CCLI or other copyright licensing agencies.

"Scandal of Grace" by Joel Houston and Matt Crocker

"Thieves on a Cross" by Kip Fox

"Here Is Love" by Matt Redman, Robert Lowry and William Rees

"Thy Will" by Hillary Scott

"Cry of the Broken" by Darlene Zschech

"Man of Sorrows" by Brooke Ligertwood and Matt Crocker

"God of Calvary" by Chris Tomlin, Jonas Myrin, Matt Maher and Matt Redman