

in view of

G O D ' S
M E R C Y



GOOD FRIDAY:
Mercy in the Cross

————— *in view of* —————

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IN THIS KIT

Notes/Ordering Information	5-8
Newsletter/Bulletin Notices	9
Order of Service	10-13
Complete Script For Leaders.....	14-23
Scripture Readings	24-25
Children's Sermon	26-27
Sermon.....	28-31
Prayers.....	32
Music Guide	33-40

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ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Good Friday is a day when we take a long look at our lives in view of God's mercy toward us in the sacrifice of his Son for us on the cross. We are called by God in response to be living sacrifices for him, displaying our devotion to him in word and deed. Jesus helps us to see the richness of God's mercy in his suffering and death. This service for Good Friday by theology professor David Peter focuses our eyes of faith on the meaning behind God's mercy made manifest in Christ.

The kit contains: an order of service • sermon • children's message • prayers • music for the accompanist

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.

Blank Bulletins for the Holy Week and Easter Services:

Code **GMWB** • Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday)

Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code **GMWD** • Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday)

Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 14"

Code **GMWC** • Easter Sunday

Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code **GMWE** • Easter Sunday

Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 14"

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 in paper format. The kit also includes digital files in RTF format with text of services, plus a PDF file of the kit, and PowerPoint documents for use on screens. Kit Code **GMWU**

Ash Wednesday

Mercy in Ashes • Joel 2:13

As we are marked with ashes on this day, a reminder to us of our sins, we are reminded, too, of the mercy of our God who lifts us from our ashes to new life in Christ.

Week 1

Mercy in Temptation • 1 Corinthians 10:13

In the midst of temptation, our merciful God provides us with a way out through his Son, who was tempted just as we are, yet without sin.

Week 2

Mercy in Suffering • 1 Peter 2:23

No life is without suffering, but our sufferings are not worth comparing to the glory to be revealed to us in Jesus by God's great mercy.

Week 3

Mercy in Betrayal • 1 Peter 3:11

Though we may turn away from our God again and again, our Lord continues to call us back into his merciful arms for Jesus' sake.

Week 4

Mercy in Relationships • Ephesians 4:32

Within the communities God has placed us, we are given the grace to treat one another as Christ has cared for us in his love and mercy.

Week 5

Mercy in Service • Hebrews 6:10

In response to God's kindness to us in Jesus, we serve in mercy the needs of those around us by Christ's example.

Bulletins for the Lent Series:

Code **GMW2** • Lent Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 11"

Code **GMWR** • Lent Blank bulletins • 8.5" x 14"

You can also order the Ash Wednesday service alone:

Ash Wednesday

Code **GMW3** • Kit

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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:

[shutterstock.com/image-photo/jesus-christ-cross-easter-resurrection-concept-795783580](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/jesus-christ-cross-easter-resurrection-concept-795783580)

- 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:

God made us alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 2:13-14

- The **Invocation and Call to Worship** are spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C In the death of Christ we have life.

P Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

C In the death of Christ we have life.

P He was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities.

C In the death of Christ we have life.

P Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace.

C In the death of Christ we have life.

P With his stripes we are healed.

C In the death of Christ we have life.

P He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

C In the death of Christ we have life. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Hamburg LM, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

- The **Confession and Forgiveness** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P The scripture declares: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way” (Isaiah 53:6). On this solemn day we reflect upon our waywardness and how our sin sent Jesus to die upon the cross.

C Most merciful God, we view our Lord Jesus nailed to the cross. We confess that it is our sin that condemned him to this horrific death. We acknowledge that our transgressions deserve eternal death for us. For the sake of Jesus Christ, who was crucified as the

penalty for our sin, forgive us and restore us in righteousness. Renew us so that we honor him who died for us, to the glory of your holy name.

P We cry to you for mercy.

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, God's mercy is greater.)

P Hear the good news! God's Word declares: "the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you. For Christ's sake God forgives you all your sins so that you might be made righteous through him. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

C **Amen.**

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

P Gracious Lord, for us and for our salvation you were willing to be beaten, scourged, nailed to a cross and suffer death despite your innocence. Thank you for bearing the curse of our sin and for dying in our stead. In view of your mercy, form us by your Spirit to no longer live for ourselves but for him who died for us. We pray these things in the holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

- The **Children's Sermon** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

The speaker wears black attire. This may be a black robe, such as a cassock or pulpit gown, or a black suit or dress.

P Welcome to this children's message on Good Friday. Good Friday is the day in which we remember Jesus' death. It is the day in which we think about how Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us.

You see that I am wearing black clothes today. *(Display your clothes so the children can see.)* Oftentimes when people wear clothes that are colored black, it is a time of sadness. For example, when people go to a funeral, they usually wear black. Men wear black suits and women wear black dresses. Boys wear black shirts and girls wear black skirts. They wear these black clothes at a funeral because someone has died. At a funeral we remember someone whom we loved who has died. Maybe you have been to a funeral for someone you loved who died. Maybe it was a funeral for your grandma or grandpa, or for a friend who died. The black clothes we wear show that we are sad that our loved one died.

On this day, Good Friday, I am wearing black clothes because this church service is like a funeral. We gather to remember someone who died, someone whom we love very much. The

one who died is Jesus. Some bad men killed him by putting him on a cross. Jesus hung on the cross and suffered for six hours until he finally died. While he was dying, everything turned dark. The sun turned black, and the sky grew dark. It was a very sad day when Jesus died. This is why I wear black clothes today on Good Friday.

We are sad that Jesus suffered and died on the cross. But we know that Jesus died for a reason. He died to forgive all the bad that we have done. He died to take the punishment away from us. He died to save us from our sins. Because he has done this—forgiven and saved us—we are thankful to Jesus. And although we are sad that Jesus died, we are glad that he died to save us. We are glad that his death on the cross saves us from our sin. We are glad that Jesus loved us so much that he died for us!

I want to tell you something else. In a couple of days—on Sunday—I won't wear only dark clothes. On Easter Sunday when we gather here at church I will wear bright clothes. And I expect that you will wear very colorful clothes. Because on Easter we will celebrate that Jesus came alive again! We will be happy to sing about Jesus rising from the dead. We rejoice that Jesus died for our sins and rose again to life forever! So I look forward to seeing you on Easter Sunday and celebrating our living Lord then.

- **The Old Testament Reading**, Isaiah 25:6-9, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
 - Ⓟ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples, a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”
- **The Epistle Reading**, Colossians 2:13-15, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
 - Ⓟ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Tune..... Were You There 10 10 14 10

Musical notation for measures 1-5. The piece is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 1 starts with a whole rest in the treble and a bass line of G2, B-flat2, E-flat3. Measures 2-5 feature a melody in the treble and a bass line of chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3.

Musical notation for measures 6-10. The melody in the treble continues with chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3. The bass line consists of chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3.

Musical notation for measures 11-15. The melody in the treble continues with chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3. The bass line consists of chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3.

Musical notation for measures 16-20. The melody in the treble continues with chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3. The bass line consists of chords: G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, G2-B-flat2-E-flat3, and G2-B-flat2-E-flat3.

- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Were You There* 10 10 14 10, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O-oh-oh-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
O-oh-oh-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O-oh-oh-oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?