

## The Suffering

**Isaiah 52:13- 53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrew 4:14-16; 5:7-9; 10:16-25;  
John 18:1-19:42 // Good Friday**

*This worship service is to remember the suffering of Jesus, His crucifixion, and His death on the cross on Calvary. Through the reading of scripture and through the gradual extinguishing of candles, it leaves those worshipping contemplating the significance of Jesus' death. Here are some materials to get you started creating your own worship service.*

**Main Theme:** Remembering the cross at Calvary.

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### CHOOSING SCRIPTURE // FOR THE FOUNDATION

The following passage from **John 18:1-19:42** lays out a thematic foundation for this service. Other passages support this theme and might be utilized throughout the service.

- ◆ Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- ◆ Psalm 22
- ◆ Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
- ◆ Hebrews 10:16-25

### CHOOSING MUSIC // FOR SINGING

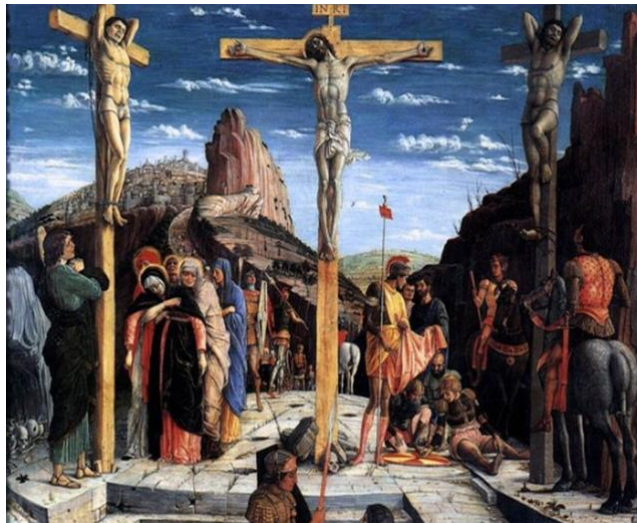
- ◆ **O, Sacred Head Now Wounded**  
Text and Music: Paul Gerhardt; (HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN 7.6.7.6.D) German Melody  
Public Domain
- ◆ **Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed**  
Text and Music: Isaac Watts and Hugh Wilson  
Public Domain
- ◆ **Were You There**  
Text and Music: African American Spiritual; John Work and Fredrick Work  
Public Domain
- ◆ **Thank You Jesus, For the Blood**  
Text and Music: Charity Gayle, David Gentiles, Steven Musso, Ryan Kennedy, Bryan McCleery  
©2021 Come Up Kings Publishing, ComissionMusic, McCleery MSC, Watershed Worship Publishing, Steven Musso Music, Gather House Music Publishing, Gather House Music Publishing (Admin. By Watershed Music Publishing)  
CCLI Song No. 7172456
- ◆ **Yet Not I, But Through Christ In Me**  
Text and Music: CityAlight, Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson  
©2018 Farren Love And War Publishing, Integrity's Alleluia! Music, CityAlight Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song No. 7121852
- ◆ **How Deep the Father's Love for Us**  
Text and Music: Austin Stone Worship, Stuart Townend  
©1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. By Capitol CMG Publishing) CCLI Song No. 1558110

## CREATING DRAMA // FOR HEARING

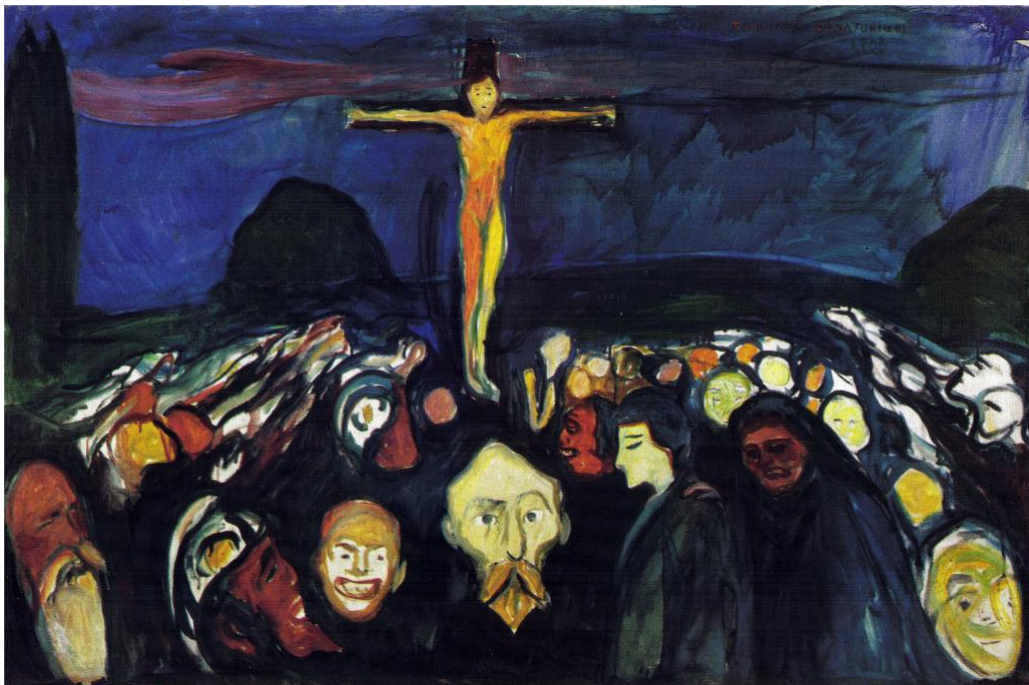
Read the scripture passages above. Then, introduce and show these two videos from Work of the People [www.workofthepeople.com] and Worship House Media [worshiphousemedia.com].

- ◆ [The Way of the Heart](#) takes you through the Stations of the Cross.
- ◆ [The Crucifixion](#) by Church Fuel helps view the Gospel accounts through visuals and music to see the events leading up to Jesus' death on the cross.

## FINDING ART // FOR SEEING



[“The Crucifixion”](#) was painted by Andrea Mantegna in 1457-1459 A.D. for the altarpiece at the Basilica of San Zeno in Verona, Italy and now hangs in the Louvre in Paris.



This contemporary art style depiction of the crucifixion called [Golgotha](#) by Edvard Munch.

## LIVING WORSHIP // FOR DOING

Remembrance of Jesus' death on the cross can be incorporated into acts of worship weekly on Sundays with the act of communion and songs to commemorate the occasion (see "Choosing Music" section). One aspect of this day that is sometimes difficult for churches to engage is the act of lament and weeping. Good Friday is a dark day, and it seems fitting to mourn the death of our Savior. And yet, we wait with anticipation the glory that is to come. Using Scripture, with Psalm 22 as an example, as an intercessory prayer could be beneficial personally and congregationally as an act of remembering and resonating with that feeling of melancholy. Additionally, a re-enactment of Christ carrying in the cross as a powerful way to portray the gravity that the event to come on Good Friday would hold.

## MAKING SPACE // FOR WORSHIPPING

For this service, plan to have worship in a room with little light pouring in from outside or have the service in the evening, and at least one candelabra with candles that are lit before the service begins. Throughout the service extinguish one candle at a time. The last candle will be extinguished at the end of the service. The gradual extinguishing of the candles represents the coming of Jesus' death. When the service has ended, worshippers will leave in silence in the darkness to mourn Jesus' death. The color for this day is black, red, or nothing.

## WRITING POETRY // FOR PRAYING

### **Good Friday – Christinna Rosetti (Cosmic)**

Am I a stone and not a sheep  
That I can stand, O Christ, beneath Thy cross,  
To number drop by drop Thy blood's slow loss,  
And yet not weep?

Not so those women loved  
Who with exceeding grief lamented Thee;  
Not so fallen Peter weeping bitterly;  
Not so the thief was moved;

Not so the Sun and Moon  
Which hid their faces in the starless sky,  
A horror of great darkness a broad at broad noon,-  
I, only I.  
Yet give not o'er,  
But seek thy sheep, true Shephard of the flock;  
Greater than Moses, turn and look once more and smite a rock.

*(Accessed through [scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk](http://scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk))*

### **Stand-to: Good Friday Morning- Siegfried Sassoon (Personal)**

I'd been on duty from two till four.  
I went and stared at the dug-out door.  
Down in the frowst I heard them snore.  
'Stand to!' Somebody grunted and swore.

Dawn was misty; the skies were still;  
Larks were singing, discordant, shrill;  
They seemed happy, but I felt ill.  
Deep in water I Splashed my way  
Up the trench to our bogged front line.  
Rain had fallen the whole damned night. O Jesus, send me a wound to-day,  
And I'll believe in your bread and wine,  
And get my bloody old sins washed white!  
*(Accessed through [poets.org](https://www.poets.org))*