Hymn of the Day – "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle"

- Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;
 Sing the ending of the fray.
 Now above the cross, the trophy,
 Sound the loud triumphant lay;
 Tell how Christ, the world's redeemer,
 As a victim won the day.
- Tell how, when at length the fullness Of the-appointed time was come, He, the Word, was born of woman, Left for us His Father's home, Blazed the path of true obedience, Shone as light amidst the gloom.
- Thus, with thirty years accomplished, He went forth from Nazareth, Destined, dedicated, willing, Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He humbly yielded On the cross His dying breath.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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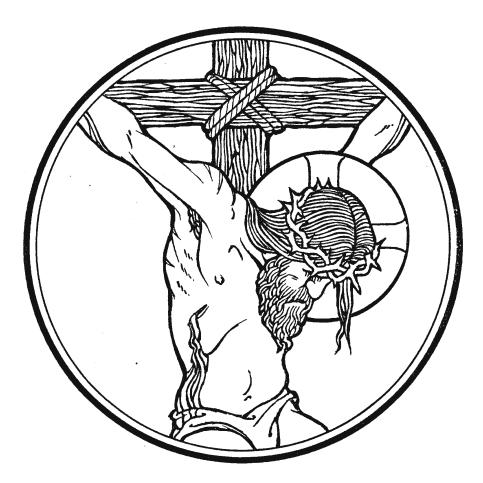
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LESSONS FOR LAMBS

GOOD FRIDAY

The color for Good Friday is black or purple.



What to listen for during the service?

Listen to the hymns today. What do the hymns say happened when Jesus was crucified and what does this mean for you?

Gospel Reading: John (18:1-19:15) 19:16-42

(The Gospel Reading is from the part of the Bible that is about Jesus and his ministry.)

16 So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, 17 and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. 18 There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. 19 Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." 20 Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. 21 So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" 22 Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

23 When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, 24 so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, 25 but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

31 Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. 32 So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. 35 He who saw it has borne witness—

his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. 36 For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

38 After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. 39 Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. 40 So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. 42 So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Questions to talk about with your parents:

- 1) How many others were crucified with Jesus?
- 2) What did Pontius Pilate write and put over Jesus' head on the cross?
- 3) What four things does John mention happened to "fulfill" Scripture? What does "fulfill" mean?
- 4) Why didn't they break Jesus' legs and why is this important?
- 5) When they took Jesus down from the cross, where did they take Him?

People of the Bible: Pontius Pilate

In the Gospel Reading today we hear about Pontius Pilate. But who was Pontius Pilate? Pontius Pilate was a Roman governor over Judea during the time of Jesus' ministry. Pilate was the judge in the trial of Jesus, and even though he said, "I find no guilt in him," he still handed him over to be crucified. Pilate's wife even warned him not to be involved but he gave in to the pressure from the people who wanted to crucify Jesus. Pilate washed his hands and said he was innocent of Jesus' death, but Jesus is the only one that can truly wash and forgive. If we repent and ask Jesus for forgiveness He will wash us clean, but we cannot wash ourselves.