

Great Vigil of Easter Saturday April 11, 2020

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. Jesus said: I give you a new commandment. Love one another as I have loved you. By this world will know that we are his disciples, if we love one another.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

Thanksgiving and Intercession

Take all our doubts and uncertainties, O Go, and fill us with such faith that we may be confident of your love and loyal in the service of him who died and yet lives for us, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Hymn

"When I Survey the Wonderful Cross"

Scripture Reading

John 3:16

Meditation and Reflection on his precious word

*Let us each day walk through the sufferings of Christ. Christ said very little when he was betrayed. He did not attempt to defend himself, but "humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross"
Phil 2:8*

"It is finished" John 19:30

Christ isn't just saying his suffering is nearly over, death is upon him, but that his mission is complete. He had completed what he came to do, to lay down his own life, a ransom for the sins of all humanity so that we would no longer be separated from God. His words are one of ultimate surrender.

Reveal what I need to surrender to you.

A Spiritual Practice for Easter Vigil

Thanksgiving for Light

Light a candle and read John 1:1-5. Reflect on and give thanks for times where you see God's light shining in darkness. Conclude with this prayer: We praise and glorify you, Lord God, for Christ, our life, is risen and has conquered sin and death. He has broken the chains that bind us and freed us to live in his kingdom of light. May Christ enlighten the hearts of all who believe. May Christ transform this world that longs to see him, enlightening the hearts of all who believe, and restore all creation to its rightful place. Glory, praise, thanksgiving, and blessing to you, O God, victor over sin and death, now and forever. Amen.

Liturgy provided for free distribution by:

Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA)

By Shemaiah Gonzalez, "Guided meditation on the seven last words of Christ" *The Catholic Sun*, April 3, 2019

Music provided for free distribution by:

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707

Music: Lowell Mason, 1824