

Good Friday

March 29, 2024

As We Gather

In this service for Good Friday, we ponder Christ's death on the cross as a sacrifice for us all. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of sacrifice, guided by Christ and the cross.

At Redemption, we celebrate the Lord's Supper in the confession that our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but also his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins. This also strengthens our union with him and with one another. We invite to His table those who trust his words and repent of all sin. Any who hold a confession differing from this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are asked to speak with Pastor Josh or an Elder (1 Cor. 11:17-24).

Opening Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #425

1 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.	2 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.
3 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?	4 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!

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession

At this time, you are invited to pull out the insert in your bulletin. Feel free to write what you would like to confess or meditate on during this time (your sins, your name, nothing at all). Read the verses there and pray to your father in heaven confessing your sins and thanking Him for His loving-kindness.

You are then invited to come forward, fold that paper in half, pound it into the cross to remind yourself that your sins were nailed to the cross with your Lord, and then return to your seat to meditate on the music or pray further. This time is yours for reflection and prayer.

Words of Forgiveness

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, you bore our sins in your body on the cross. In our place, you suffered the penalty of death that we deserve. By God's grace through faith in your name, our sins are forgiven, and we stand before God clothed in your holiness, your righteousness. Lead us by the Holy Spirit to follow in your steps and be willing to make sacrifices for the sake of serving others. Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, hear our prayer and accept our praise. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 53:6-9

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 10:12-14

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 19:31-35

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

#449

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1
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.

2
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,
And grant to me Thy grace.

Sermon "Guided to Sacrifice"

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Offering "Were You There"

arr. Sondra K. Tucker
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The First Word

Luke 23:32-34

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

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!'"

The first candle is extinguished Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

1
Jesus, in Your dying woes,
Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

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

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.

The second candle is extinguished Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

4
Jesus, pitying the sighs
Of the thief, who near You dies,
Promising him paradise:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Third Word

John 19:25-27

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

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.

The third candle is extinguished

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

7

Jesus, loving to the end
Her whose heart Your sorrows rend,
And Your dearest human friend:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Fourth Word

Matthew 27:35-36, 39-46

And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

A Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The fourth candle is extinguished

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

10

Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,
With our evil left alone,
While no light from heav'n is shown:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Fifth Word

John 19:28-29

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop and held it to his mouth.

A Reading

Matthew 26:36, 39, 42

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

The fifth candle is extinguished

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

13

Jesus, in Your thirst and pain,
While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Sixth Word

John 19:30

When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

A Reading

Psalm 53

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good. God looks down from heaven on the children of man to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God? There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror! For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you; you put them to shame, for God has rejected them. Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

The sixth candle is extinguished

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

16

Jesus, all our ransom paid,
All Your Father's will obeyed;
By Your sufferings perfect made:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-46

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

A Reading

Romans 9:19-21

You will say to me then, "Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, "Why have you made me like this?" Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

The seventh candle is extinguished

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes #447

19

Jesus, all Your labor vast,
All Your woe and conflict past,
Yielding up Your soul at last:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Exit of the Processional Cross

The Closing of the Book

The Lord's Prayer

The Processional Cross is Returned Signifying

The Victory Over Death

Leave in Silence