



Good Friday
April 18, 2025
6:30 PM Worship Service



Greeting and Opening Prayer

Invocation

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Call to Worship

P: Turn us again to yourself, O God Almighty.

C: **Make your face shine upon us.**

P: Only then will we be saved.

C: **You brought Israel from Egypt like a grapevine.**

P: You drove away the nations and transplanted them into your land.

C: **You cleared the ground for your people.**

P: They took root and filled the land.

C: **But now, our walls are broken down.**

P: The wild boar from the forest devours it, and the wild animals feed on it.

C: **Make your face shine upon us.**

P: Look from heaven and see our plight. Take care of this grapevine

C: **Turn us again to yourself, O God Almighty.**

P: Make your face shine upon us.

All: Only then will we be saved.

Opening Song: In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB #427

vs. 1-4

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o’ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

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Confession & Absolution

- P: Dear Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to reverently behold the agony of your rejection, the pain of your condemnation, and the horror of your crucifixion.
- C: **Bring us to the places you walked and to the people you encountered on that Friday so long ago.**
- P: Stay with us, Lord, as we witness your suffering and listen to your last words of love.
- C: **As we approach Calvary let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against your holy commandments.**
- P: Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking and doing.
- C: **We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.**
- P: We have passed by the hungry, the poor and the oppressed.
- C: **O God, we have tried to hide from you and from one another.**
- P: We confess our fatal attractions that enslave us and the failed relationships that haunt us.
- C: **We cannot plead the strength of our temptations or the frailty of our nature or place the blame on other people.**
- P: We can only say, "For the sake of Jesus, God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

+ A moment of silent reflection +

- P: By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, I remind you that you are forgiven of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. O God, make your face shine upon us.

All: Only then will we be saved!

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-23

18 For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,

23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

"Lifted Up" - Pastor Doug Widger

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.

Prayers

THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

LSB #423
vs. 1-3

Jesus, refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended,
Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended,
You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding,
Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,
See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us
Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us
Calms the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning
To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever,
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

Text & Music: Public domain

Luke 23:33-38 ~

- 33 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.
- 34 And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.
- 35 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!"
- 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine
- 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"
- 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

The First Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF PROMISE

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB #437
vs. 1-2

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

Text & Music: Public domain

Luke 23:39-43 ~

- 39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
- 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"
- 41 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
- 42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
- 43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The Second Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF LOVE

Sanctuary Choir: "The Lamb"

John 19:25-27 ~

- 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.

The Third Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF FORSAKENNESS

Handbell Choir: "The Passion Prophecy"

Mark 15:25-35 ~

- 25 And it was the third hour when they crucified him.
26 And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."
27 And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left.
29 And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days,
30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!"
31 So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself.
32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.
33 And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour.
34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
35 And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah."

The Fourth Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF SUFFERING

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

LSB #451
vs. 1-3

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
Was the stroke that justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

John 19:28-29 ~

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.

The Fifth Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF TRUST

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

LSB #449
vs. 1-3

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.

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.

What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever!
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
Outlive my love for Thee.

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Luke 23:44-47 ~

44 It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land
until the ninth hour,

45 while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

46 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.

47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying,
"Certainly this man was innocent!"

The Sixth Candle is Extinguished

THE WORD OF VICTORY

Were You There

LSB #456, vs. 1-3

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

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?

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?

Oh . . .

Sometimes it causes me to tremble,

tremble,

tremble.

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

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John 19:30 ~

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

The Seventh Candle is Extinguished

Lord's Prayer *(spoken softly)*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Shutting of the Tomb

All leave the church in silence.