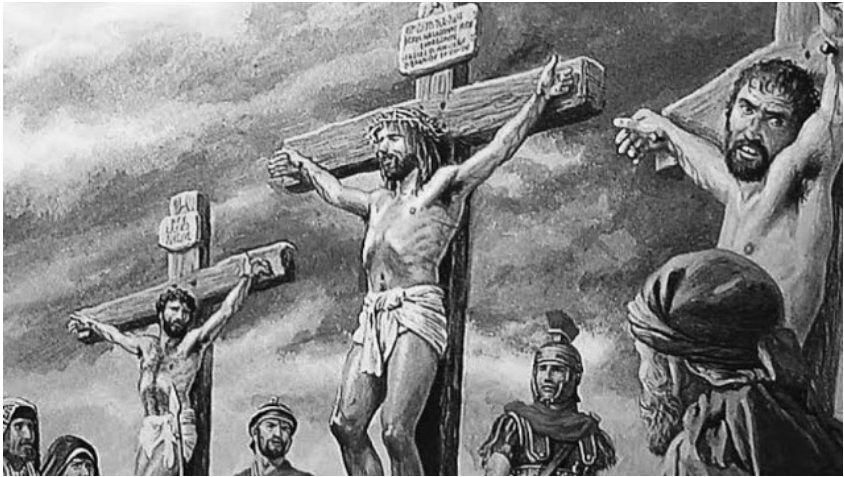


Tenebrae - Service of Darkness

Good Friday

March 29, 2024

12:15 & 7:00 p.m.





A Place to Belong

A Place to Become

This service is a version of the ancient Office of Tenebrae traditionally sung during Holy Week. As we contemplate the seven last words of Jesus from the cross, the lights are gradually extinguished and the Sanctuary descends into darkness, symbolizing the death and burial of our Lord. The congregation then leaves in darkness (Tenebrae) and silence...in anticipation of the resurrection.

This day is the second portion of the liturgy of the Three Days, which extends from Maundy Thursday through Easter. As the church gathers to remember the death of Jesus, we focus not only upon the agony of the cross, but especially upon God's victory through the crucified. Even more, we "lift high the cross" as the sign of God's triumph over sin, death, and evil.

Pastor: Steve Albertin
Music: Pam Crowell
Reader: Sara Krohn
Acolyte: Jensen Bruckner

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Service of Darkness

PRELUDE

Fugue from Sonata in D major

J.S. Bach

Please Stand

SILENT PROCESSION

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

Please Be Seated

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Today's reading reinterprets the common idea that suffering is God's punishment for sin: "You get what you deserve." What is new is the idea that the innocent sufferer brings benefits for the community. The suffering and death of the servant serve God's purposes: The redemption of God's people.

13 See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. 14 Just as there were many who were astonished at him —so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals— 15 so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

1 Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? 2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. 3 He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

4 Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. 9 They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. 11 Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:1-25

Spoken responsively between Pastor and congregation by whole verses.

P My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

C **O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.**

P Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

C **In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.**

P To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

C: **But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.**

P All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

C **‘Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver— let him rescue the one in whom he delights!’**

P Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

C **On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**

P Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

C **Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

P They open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

C **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;**

P my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

C **For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shrivelled;**

P I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;

C **they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.**

P But you, O Lord, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

C **Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!**

P Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

C **I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

P You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

C **For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

P From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

Please Stand

The Gospel: Luke 23:39-43

39One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

A Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please Be Seated

SERMON

Voices of the Passion
“Thief on the Cross, The Repentant Believer”

Please remain seated

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
(vs. 1, 4)

ELW 351

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS (7:00 p.m. only)

As the cross processes, it will pause three times. At each pause, the following verse and response is spoken. (12:15 Repeated three times.)

P Behold, the life-living cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C **Oh, come, let us worship him.**

After the cross is placed at the Altar...

P We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

HYMN (7:00 p.m. only)

Were You There

ELW 353

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS

After each verse, there will be silence for meditation.

HYMN

(tune ~ Lord Jesus, Think on Me - ELW 599)

“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”

Verse 1: Our Savior speaks in grace
With words of mercy true:
“Forgive them, Father”, thus he prays
“They know not what they do.”

“Woman, behold your son! ...Son, behold your Mother.”

Verse 2: Our Savior speaks in grace
With words of mercy true:
“Forgive them, Father”, thus he prays
“They know not what they do.”

“Today you will be with me in paradise.”

Verse 3: His wondrous pity see!
Unto the thief He cries:
“Today, I tell you, you will be
With me in Paradise.”

“My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

Verse 4: Now hear the awful cry.
Sin’s dreadful burden see:
“My God, My God,” the Son shouts,
“Why have you forsaken me?”

“I thirst.”

Verse 5: As Man for men He dies.
Sin’s pow’r has done its worst.
From Hell’s dread agony He cries
A simple word: “I thirst.”

“It is finished.”

Verse 6: “Tis finished,” says the Lord
The burden on Him laid
Of sinful thought and deed and word-
The debit is fully paid.

“Father, into Thy hands I commit my spirit.”

Verse 7: “Father, into Your hands
My Spirit I commend.”
And He who hears and understands
Receives Him in the end.

Please Stand

LITANY

P Christ became obedient for us unto death:

C Even the death of the cross.

P O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C O Lord, have mercy upon us.

P O Christ, have mercy upon us.

C O Christ, have mercy upon us.

P O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C O Lord, have mercy upon us.

P O Christ, hear us.

C O Christ, hear us.

P O God, the father in heaven,

C have mercy upon us.

P O God, the Son, redeemer of the world,

C have mercy upon us.

P O God, the Holy Spirit,
C **have mercy upon us.**

P Be gracious to us.
C **Spare us, good Lord.**

P O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C **we beseech you to hear us.**

P O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C **have mercy upon us.**

P O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C **have mercy upon us.**

P O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
C **Grant us your peace.**

P O Christ hear us.
C **O Christ hear us.**

P O Christ, have mercy upon us.
C **O Christ, have mercy upon us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Whispered*)

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR GOOD FRIDAY

(7:00 p.m. ONLY)

The Christ candle is removed from the Sanctuary symbolizing Christ's death and descent into Hell.

STREPITUS

A "harsh noise", the slamming shut of a large book, signifying that the death of Jesus has fulfilled the Scriptures and the closing of the tomb.

(7:00 p.m. ONLY)

The Christ Candle returns to the Sanctuary in anticipation of the Resurrection.

BLESSING

The congregation leaves the Sanctuary in silence.