

Good  
Friday

Easter Saturday 6:00 p.m. - Easter Sunday 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.



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# Good Friday - Tenebrae Vespers

April 3, 2026

+ We Come Into God's Presence +

## Prelude

## Ringing of the Bell

*Please stand and face the Processional Cross at the rear of the church.*

## Procession of the Cross

**P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

**C** **O come, let us worship Him.**

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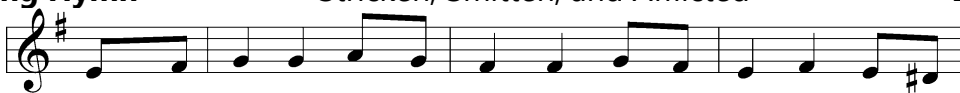
**P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

**C** **O come, let us worship Him.**

## Opening Hymn

### "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

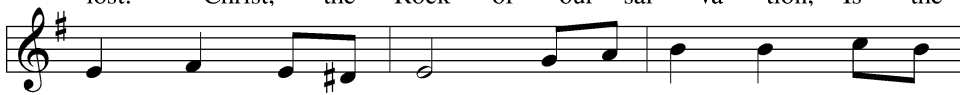
LSB 451



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the  
 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, Was there ev - er grief like  
 3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil  
 4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my  
 His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -  
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its  
 lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed  
 sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to  
 guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -  
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners

Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I  
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the  
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the  
 wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall  
 see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.  
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

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*Please note that as this service is part of the Triduum, there is no Invocation or Benediction.*

## Confession of Sins

[Isaiah 53:4-6]

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

**Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

But he was wounded for our transgressions;

**He was crushed for our iniquities;**

We all like sheep have gone astray;

**We have turned, everyone, to his own way;**

And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

**Amen.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Absolution

**P** By the power of Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

**G Almighty God, graciously behold Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was 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. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

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+ God Speaks to Us +

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Sanctuary Choir

"O Darkest Woe"

arr. William Braun  
for text, see hymn 448

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Sermon

Hymn of Response

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

Hymn 440



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;  
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,  
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.  
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;  
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.  
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 5 | If my sins give me alarm<br>And my conscience grieve me,<br>Let Your cross my fear disarm;<br>Peace of conscience give me.<br>Help me see forgiveness won<br>By Your holy passion.<br>If for me He slays His Son,<br>God must have compassion! | 6 | Graciously my faith renew;<br>Help me bear my crosses,<br>Learning humbleness from You,<br>Peace mid pain and losses.<br>May I give You love for love!<br>Hear me, O my Savior,<br>That I may in heav'n above<br>Sing Your praise forever. |
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## + Tenebrae Sequence - The Seven Last Words +

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### + The First Word +

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#### The First Word

Luke 23:33-34

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.

*The first candle is extinguished.*

#### Prayer

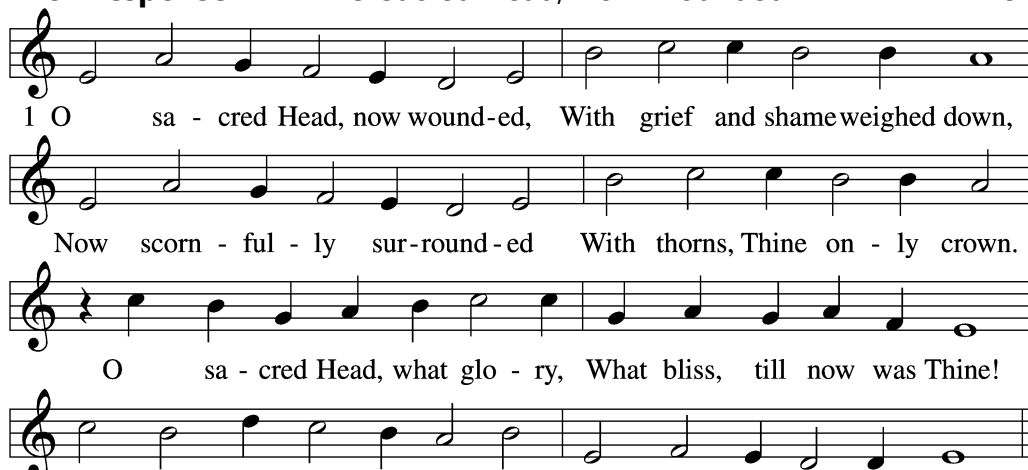
**P** Almighty and everlasting God, through the crucifixion of Jesus, Your only begotten Son, You forgive the sins of all who are repentant. Create in us clean hearts O God.

**C** Amen.

#### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.

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## + The Second Word +

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### The Second Word

Luke 23:38-43

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."

*The second candle is extinguished.*

### Prayer

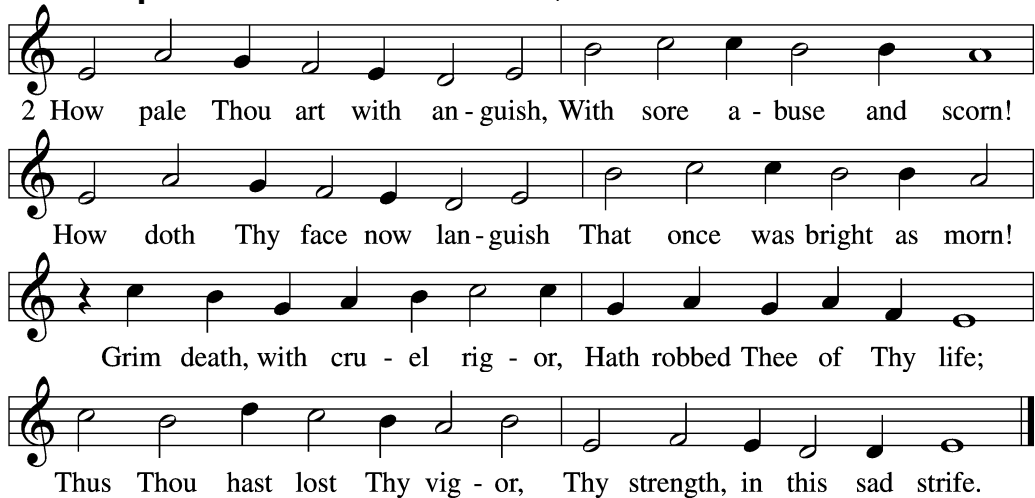
**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, You said to the repentant thief on the cross, "Today you will be with Me in Paradise." So, remember us in Your kingdom and grant us to join You in Paradise.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



2 How pale Thou art with an-guish, With sore a-buse and scorn!  
How doth Thy face now lan-guish That once was bright as morn!  
Grim death, with cru-el rig-or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig-or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

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## + The Third Word +

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### 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.

*The third candle is extinguished.*

### Prayer

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, You have made us brothers and sisters through Your suffering and death. Give us grace to look after each other with Your love.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;  
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

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## + The Fourth Word +

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### The Fourth Word

Mark 15:33-34

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 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?"

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

### Prayer

- P** Gracious and loving Father, You forsook Your Son for a moment so that we will never be forsaken. Grant us faith to trust that You are present with us even when we are afflicted.
- C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.  
Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.  
Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;  
Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

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## + The Fifth Word +

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### The Fifth Word

John 19:28

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst."

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

### Prayer


**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, quench our thirst with Your Word and renew a right spirit within us.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,  
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?  
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,  
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.

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## + The Sixth Word +

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### The Sixth Word

John 19:29-30

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

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*


### Prayer

- P** Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Lamb of God who has taken away our sin completely. Grant us faith to live in Your completed sacrifice.
- C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;  
Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!  
When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,  
But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!

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## + The Seventh Word +

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### The Seventh Word

Luke 23:46

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.

*The seventh candle is extinguished.*

### Prayer

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, into Your hands Jesus placed His spirit. By grace through faith, our spirits now rest in Your gracious hands as we await the Resurrection and the Life.

**C** Amen.

### Hymn of Response

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LSB 450



7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;  
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.  
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,  
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

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**Lord's Prayer** (whispered by all)

## **The Light of Christ is Removed**

*The pastor removes the Christ Candle from the sanctuary signifying the death of Christ.*

**Litany** (Ken Erdman)

Psalm 22:1

**The Strepitus** (The stone is rolled in front of the tomb)

*A door is slammed to symbolize the sealing of the tomb.*

*The toll bell is rung 33 times for each year of Jesus' life. While it is rung, the congregation sings . . .*

**Hymn**

"Were You There" – St. 1-3

LSB 456

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord . . .**

**Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree . . .**

**Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb . . .**

## **The Christ Candle is Returned**

*The pastor returns the lit Christ Candle to the Sanctuary pointing us to the hope of Easter.*

**Closing Hymn**

"Jesus, Remember Me" (sing three times)

LSB 767

*Please leave in silence while contemplating Good Friday and anticipating the joys of Easter.*

### **WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

Preacher: Rev. Matthew B. Synnott / Liturgist: Rev. Mark J. Nelson

Organist: Peter Wykert / Sound: Todd Coulter

Usher: Mark Morrow / Acolytes: Jamison and Alyssa Hymbaugh

*This service continues with the Easter service on Saturday night at 6:00 p.m.*

*Please join us also for our Easter services on Sunday at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m.*