



**Good Friday Tenebrae Service
April 3, 2026**

Please silence your cell phone

The Greeting

Pastor Jim Szeyller

Hymn

(Please stand if you are able.)

O How He Loves You and Me

Kurt Kaiser
#479

*O how he loves you and me,
O how he loves you and me;
He gave his life - what more could he give?
O how he loves you, O how he loves me,
O how he loves you and me!*

*O how he loves you and me,
O how he loves you and me;
He gave his life - what more could he give?
O how he loves you, O how he loves me,
O how he loves you and me!*

The Light of Christ Comes to the Passion

Tavin McKinley

Opening Prayer

First Reading

Luke 22: 7 - 23

The Last Supper

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed.

⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." ⁹ They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?"

¹⁰ "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." ¹³ So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared

the Passover meal. ¹⁴ When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶ for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸ for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹ But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. ²² For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" ²³ Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

An Extinguishing of Light

Hymn

(Please remain seated.)

Come, Share the Lord

Bryan Jeffery Leech
#782 (vv. 1, 2)

*We gather here in Jesus' name,
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
For through his loving Son the Father makes us one:
Come, take the bread, come drink the wine,
Come, share the Lord.*

*No one is a stranger here
Everyone belongs;
Finding our forgiveness here,
We in turn forgive all wrongs.*

*We'll gather soon where angels sing;
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;
And now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:
Come, take the bread, come, drink the wine,
Come, share the Lord.*

Second Reading

Matthew 26: 30 - 46

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹ Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'" ³² But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." ³³ Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." ³⁴ Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵ Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples. ³⁶ 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." ³⁷ He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." ⁴⁰ Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹ Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴² Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³ Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

An Extinguishing of Light

Anthem

O Gethsemane
Arr. By David T. Clydesdale
LNPC Chancel Choir
Dr. Grace Park, Organist

O Gethsemane, beneath the stars,
You embraced a Lamb
Whose destiny was spoken
Long before the world began.
In Gethsemane were His friends asleep
As he nailed alone
Praying, "Father, take this cup,"
But knowing that it would be His own.

Can you tell me on that night,
Was there wind and rain,
Or was the Father's heart revealed
In silence and in pain?

O Gethsemane, has there ever been
A greater love out poured
Then, when the blessed Savior prayed,
"Father not my will, but Yours."

Father, the time has come.
Use this to glorify your son,
So that You will be glorified.
Use the power You have given Me
To give life to Your children.

Give them life forever,
So that they will know you,
The only true God, and me, who You sent.

Can you tell me on that night,
Was there wind and rain,
Or was the Father's heart revealed
In silence and in pain?

O Gethsemane, has there ever been
A greater love out poured
Then, when the blessed Savior prayed,
"Father not my will, but Yours."
Father not my will, but Yours."

Third Reading

Luke 22: 47 - 53

The Betrayal of Jesus

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests,

the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? ⁵³ When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

An Extinguishing of Light

Anthem

They Came to Arrest Him

Pepper Choplin
LNPC Chancel Choir
Jaime Colley, Soloist

They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
The disciples were asleep, with the mob in sight,
When they came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

They came to arrest him with torches and swords.
They came to arrest him with torches and swords.
And they knew who they were lookin' for
When they came to arrest him with torches and swords.

Wake up, brothers, rise up and stand.
Look, the betrayer is at hand.
O Judas, has it come to this?
Do you betray me with a kiss?

They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
The disciples were afraid but were ready for a fight
When they came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

Peter rose up to take a stand.
He grabbed a sword up in his hand.
The Lord said, "Stop, put away your sword.
That's not what I have come here for."

They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

The disciples were afraid but were ready for a fight
When they came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

Am I a thief that you come this way?
You could have taken me any day,
Prayin' in the temple I was in plain sight.
Now you come in the middle of the night.

They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
He was prayin' in the temple. He was plain in sight,
But they came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

They came to arrest him and took him away.
They came to arrest him and took him away.
There soon would begin the darkest day.
They took him away and all seems lost,
He's walking down a road that leads to a cross.

They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.
They came to arrest him in the middle of the night.

Fourth Reading

Matthew 26: 57 - 75

Jesus Before Caiaphas

⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹ and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" ⁶² The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of

Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.”⁶⁶ What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.”⁶⁷ Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him,⁶⁸ saying, “Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.”⁷⁰ But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.”⁷¹ When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”⁷² Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.”⁷³ After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.”⁷⁴ Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed.⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

An Extinguishing of Light

Hymn

(Please remain seated.)

Ah, Holy Jesus

Johann Heermann, Translated by Robert Bridges

*Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
That mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!*

*Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you.*

Fifth Reading

Luke 23: 1 - 25

Jesus Before Pilate

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.” ³Then Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.” ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.” ⁵But they were insistent and said, “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.” ⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him

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off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. ¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him.” ¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!” ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²²A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

An Extinguishing of Light

Anthem

Via Dolorosa

Sprague & Borop
Judy Ruddiman, Solo

Down the Via Dolorosa
In Jerusalem that day
The soldiers tried to clear
The narrow street.

But the crowd pressed in to see
The man condemned to die on Calvary.

He was bleeding from a beating,
There were stripes upon His back
And He wore a crown of thorns upon His head.
And He bore with every step
The scorn of those who cried out for His death.

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Down the Via Dolorosa
Called the way of suffering
Like a lamb came the Messiah,
Christ the King

But He chose to walk that road out of
His love for you and me
Down the Via Dolorosa,
All the way to Calvary.

The blood that would cleanse
The souls of all men
Made its way to the heart of Jerusalem.

Down the Via Dolorosa
Called the way of suffering
Like a lamb came the Messiah,
Christ the King

But He chose to walk
That road out of His love for you and me
Down the Via Dolorosa,
All the way to Calvary.

Sixth Reading

Matthew 27: 32 - 44

Jesus Hung Upon the Cross

³² As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶ then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷ Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸ Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴² "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him." ⁴³ He trusts in

God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" ⁴⁴ The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

An Extinguishing of Light

Nails in the Cross

A Time of Reflection, Remembrance, and Repentance

Hymn

(Please remain seated.)

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

James W. Alexander, Translator
#221 (vv. 1, 2)

*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.*

Seventh Reading

Matthew 27: 45 - 50

The Death of Jesus

⁴⁵ From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶ And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸ At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰ Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

An Extinguishing of Light

Hymn

{Please stand if you are able.}

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Frederick C. Maker
#216 (vv. 1,2,3)

*Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand--
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land,
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.*

*Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my smitten heart with tears two wonders I confess--
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.*

*I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face,
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.*

Anthem***Were You There?***

African-American Spiritual
Jaime Colley, Solo

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?

Eighth Reading**Matthew 27: 51 - 54****Surely, He Was the Son of God**

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵² The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

An Extinguishing of Light**Final Reading****Isaiah 53: 4 - 9****Taking Up Our Infirmities**

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.

The Light of Christ in the Tomb

Benediction

Please depart quietly from the Sanctuary



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