



**Christ  
Lutheran**  
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street  
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385  
(219) 462-6660 • [clcvalpo.org](http://clcvalpo.org)



**GOOD FRIDAY**  
**April 3, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

*Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.*

## PRELUDE

*Ah Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended*

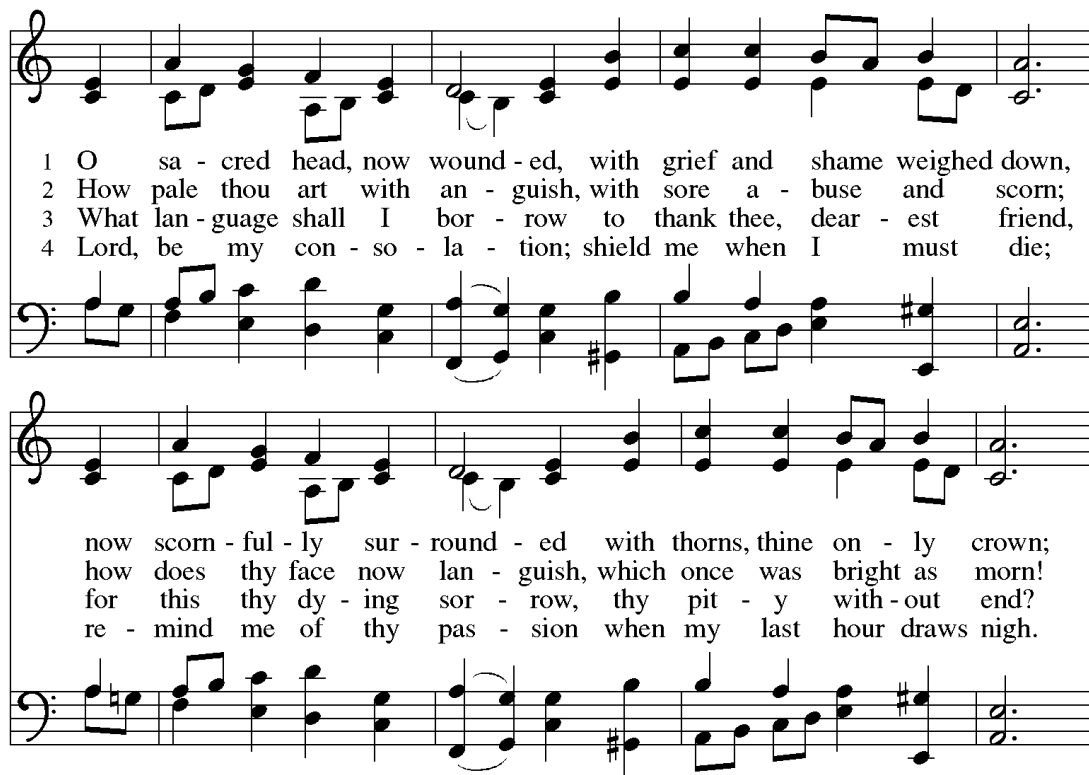
Walcha

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*The assembly stands with the presiding pastor.*

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, 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. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN #351 *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*



The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Sacred Head Now Wounded". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weigh - ed down,  
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

**WORD**

**PSALM 22**

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup>**O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
 and by night, but find no rest.**

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy,  
 enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>**In you our ancestors trusted;  
 they trusted, and you delivered them.**

<sup>5</sup>To you they cried, and were saved;  
 in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>**But I am a worm, and not human;  
 scorned by others, and despised by the people.**

<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock at me;  
 they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

**<sup>8</sup>"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"**

<sup>9</sup>Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

**<sup>10</sup>On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near  
and there is no one to help.

**<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encircle me,  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.

**<sup>14</sup>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;**

<sup>15</sup>my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
you lay me in the dust of death.

**<sup>16</sup>For dogs are all around me;  
a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shriveled;**

<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

**<sup>18</sup>they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

**<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

**<sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

**<sup>24</sup>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.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.

<sup>30</sup>**Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the LORD,**

<sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.

**Restless with grief and fear,  
the abandoned turn to you:  
in every hour of trial,  
good Lord, deliver us,  
O God most holy, God most strong,  
whose wisdom is the cross of Christ.  
Amen.**

## **SERMON**

*The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.*

## **GOSPEL READING: John 18:1—19:42**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **READING**

*Musical meditation*

**Jesus in the garden**

### **READING**

*Musical meditation*

**Jesus denied by Peter**

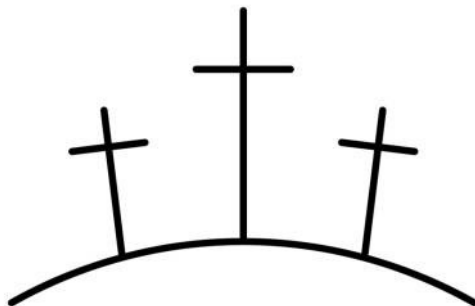
### **READING**

*Musical meditation*

**Jesus before Pilate**

**READING***Musical meditation***Jesus goes to Calvary****READING***Musical meditation***Jesus is crucified****READING***Musical meditation***Jesus gives up his spirit****READING***Silence.***The burial****PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS**

*During this time of music and contemplation, we ponder the gift of the cross. We light candles and place them in the sand as we reflect on the gift of the cross. An usher will NOT direct you; come as you are ready. When we bring our need, our brokenness, our death, God not only receives it in love on the cross – God's glory is shown in turning torture into triumph.*



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

*Refrain*

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

*When all have returned to their seats the assembly stands with the ministers.*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Children: The Spirit makes us one. We pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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.**

## **MUSICAL REFLECTION**

*The service ends in silence.*



## Worship Leaders

Readers: (2)	<u>7:00 p.m.</u> Angela Wehner Sara Long
Ushers:	Irene Adams
Lights/Sound:	Tony Reinhold
Livestream Tech:	Zach Wehner
Pastors:	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr. Rev. Erica Gibson-Even





Good Friday is a Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. It is observed during Holy Week as part of the Paschal Triduum, the great three days. It is also known as Holy Friday, Great Friday, Great and Holy Friday, and Black Friday.

## HOLY WEEK

**All-ages Easter Vigil on Saturday - 4:00 p.m.**

*We keep the ancient tradition, in a family-friendly way. Gather around the fire to hear the stories of God's saving love through the ages, remember the gift of Baptism, and hear the Easter story as we gather around Christ's table.*

**Easter Sunday - 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**

Pre-service music begins at 7:50 a.m. and 10:20 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 12:00 p.m.

### Easter Egg Hunt

12:00 p.m. – Pre-K & K (near the Memorial Garden)

12:10 p.m. – 1st– 4th grade (out in the field)

12:15 p.m. – 5th-8th grade (in the woods)

## Our Ending

John 13:1, which we read yesterday on Maundy Thursday, proclaims, “Having loved his own who were in the world, [Jesus] loved them to the end.” Today, on Good Friday, Jesus speaks his last word from the cross before his death: “It is finished” (19:30). This is the end, or completion, of Jesus’ love for “his own.” On the cross, God’s love for the world (3:16-17) is shown in Jesus’ life laid down for his friends (15:13). You have been claimed as Jesus’ friend, and the completion of Jesus’ love is yours. This Friday, made good through Easter hope, is the day to be grounded in the end.

The truth of Jesus’ claim upon you—indeed, upon the world—is a puzzle to the principalities and powers set against him. In John’s passion reading appointed to be read on Good Friday, Pilate embodies the principalities and powers as he presides over Jesus’ trial. Throughout his exchanges with Jesus, Pilate fails to discern, “What is truth?” (18:38). Ironically, the truth stands before Pilate—the Word made flesh in Jesus, “full of grace and truth” (1:14)—and Pilate is unable or unwilling to receive it.

Emphasizing the destabilization of the powers of this world that rebel against God and God’s ways, the narrator shows us, through Pilate’s physical movements, that he is floundering. Seven times throughout this passage, Pilate moves from inside his headquarters to outside and back again. Back and forth he ping-pongs as the story’s setting reveals the unsure footing of Pilate; that is, we see that the principalities and powers of the world are unhinged. Jesus is the stabilizing force, the Word that conquers the world (16:33) through the completion of God’s love for all. This is the truth that, by way of the cross, is ours. This is the final and finished gift in Christ Jesus, “grace upon grace” (1:16)—our ultimate ending.

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