



**Christ
Lutheran**
CHURCH

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GOOD FRIDAY
March 29, 2024
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*

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed 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.

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are placed between the staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with a supporting bass line in the bass staff.

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

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
 Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

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

³Yet you are holy,
 enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴**In you our ancestors trusted;
 they trusted, and you delivered them.**

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

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

⁷All who see me mock at me;
 they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

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

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb;

you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

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

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

**¹²Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

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

**¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;**

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

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

¹⁷I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

**¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

**²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!**

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

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

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

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!

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

**²⁴For 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.**

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

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

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

**²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.**

²⁹To 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.

**³⁰Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the LORD,**

³¹and 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 ACCLAMATION

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

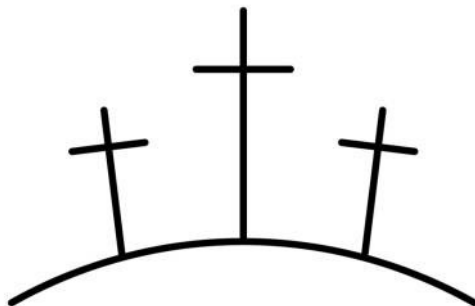
READING

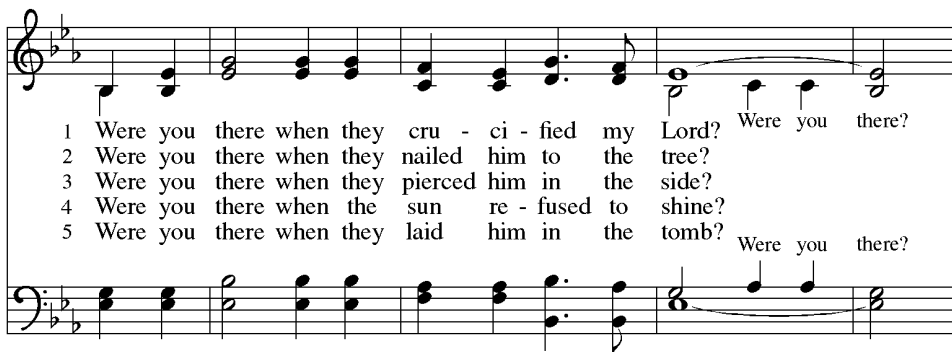
Musical meditation

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.



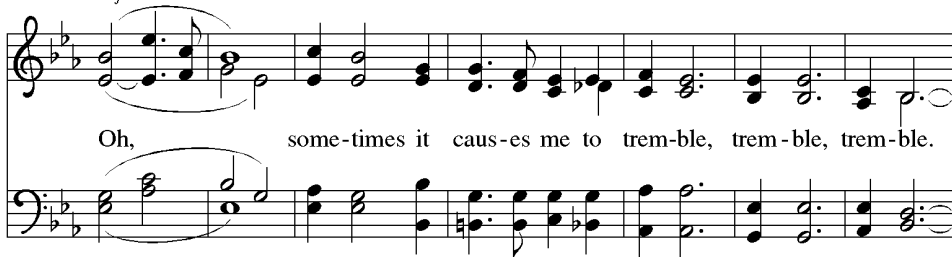


1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

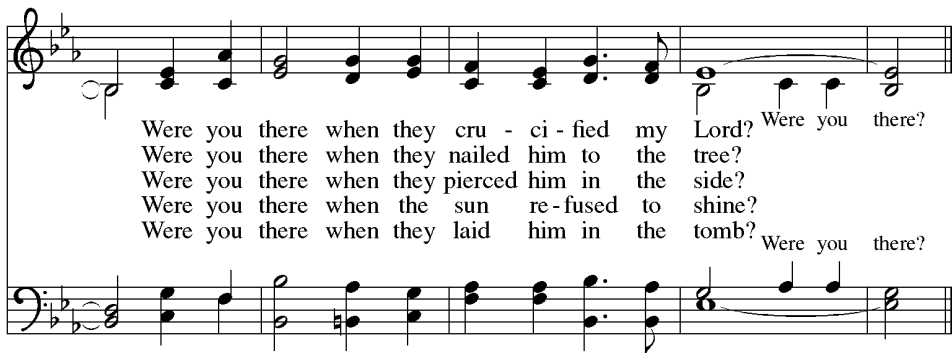


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 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

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 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.**

CHORAL REFLECTION (7:00 p.m. only) *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee* Du Bois

Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever. Christ, we do all adore Thee, and we do praise Thee forever. For on the holy cross hast Thou the world from sin redeemed.

The service ends in silence.



Worship Leaders

Readers: 7:00 p.m.
Sara Long
Angela Wehner

Lights/Sound: Zach Wehner

Livestream Tech: Tony Reinhold

Pastors: Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr.
Rev. Erica Gibson-Even

Director of Music Ministries: Brian Bartusch





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 (March 30- 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 & 10:30 a.m. (pre-service music begins at 7:50 & 10:20 a.m.).

Festival worship to celebrate the Resurrection! Come celebrate the risen Christ.

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

12:00–Pre-K-K (near the Memorial Garden)

12:10–1st-4th grade (out in the field)

12:15–5th-8th grade (in the woods)

Real Power

In the middle of Jesus' trial, Pilate is afraid. It's the opposite of what one might expect. After all, isn't he the one with the real power in this encounter? Pilate himself seems to think so. At one point in Jesus' trial, Pilate puts it plainly: "Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" By all appearances, he is the most powerful person in the story, but ironically, he is also very afraid.

The ironies of Good Friday extend far beyond the gospel, though. The history of Good Friday is hardly "good" in any usual sense of the word. On this day, one might expect humble prayer and quiet self-examination from those of us who follow Jesus. Yet for centuries, all too often this day has been marked by violence and bloodshed carried out by Christians against Jews. In our history as Christ's church, the power we have wielded over others has too often led to tragedy.

By all appearances, Good Friday is not "good" at all. And yet the good news of the cross is that God regularly shows up where we least expect. As Jesus' disciples, we stake our faith on the claim that the world is healed and redeemed by Christ's death on a cross. This is why the framing of this day as "good" persists—because in spite of all our failures and the harm we've caused, God remains faithful and God's love steadfast.

Real power for followers of Jesus isn't power over others; real power comes as a gift from God shared with others. Real power is known and nurtured in a community of love in which we together learn how to offer ourselves to one another. There's irony in this truth, and also the grace of God.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." –Hebrews 10:24-25

Today we recall Jesus' cruel death at the hands of empire. As the Body of Christ, we remember we have enormous capacity to do the hard holy work of love and care for all people.

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