

It is finished

JOHN 19:30

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Good Friday
April 3, 2026, 6:30 P.M.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship Good Friday

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.

Key to hymnals in the pews:

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

WOV = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

** = Please rise*

We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send an e-mail to redeemer@gvtel.com to let us know from where you are worshipping.

THE SERVICE

This is a Tenebrae service. 'Tenebrae' is Latin for 'shadows' or 'darkness'. In this service, we will use increasing darkness to dramatize the increasing sadness and darkness of the event of Holy Week.

After each portion of the Passion of our Lord according to St. John is read, one of the candles is extinguished, until only one candle remains. After the last reading, this candle is also extinguished leaving the congregation in darkness. The room is completely dark and recalls the days Jesus was in the tomb.

The intent of the service is to recreate the emotional aspects of our Lord's Passion—the 'shadows'—the 'darkness' of the betrayal, the abandonment, the trials, the humiliation, and the agony.

After a period of silence, a single candle is relit, representing the hope and joy and unexpected message of Easter—the Resurrection of our Lord. This story is not over until Easter Day. At this point the service is over. There is no benediction. Please leave in silence.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us together as the people of God.

Ministry of Music

Senior Choir

In the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon 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.**

Let us pray together.

All-loving God, you sent the Christ to teach and embody your love for all people, all creation. On this day, Christ goes to the cross and to death, innocent and undeserving. Open our hearts and minds to see his willing sacrifice and to be transformed by his self-giving love; through the same Jesus Christ, who, with you and the Holy Spirit, deserves our undying glory and praise. Amen.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

I

+ Jesus Betrayed and Arrested +

READING

John 18:1-11

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane
(stanzas 1-3)

ELW #347

(One candle is extinguished.)

II

+ Jesus Questioned by Annas and Caiaphas +

READING

John 18:12-13, 19-24

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Let us pray together.

Lord Christ, you came into a world as one of us and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray. Amen.

(One candle is extinguished.)

III
+ Jesus Denied by Peter +

READING

John 18:15-18, 25-27

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

HYMN

In the Hour of Trial

LBW #106
(next page)

(One candle is extinguished.)

IV
+ Jesus Tried by Pilate +

READING

John 18:28-38a

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Let us pray together.

O God of truth, your thoughts are not our thoughts, your ways are not our ways—so teach us to trust in you that, like Christ Jesus, our lives may testify to your truth, through the same Christ, who humbled himself for the life of the world. Amen.

(One candle is extinguished.)

In the Hour of Trial

1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me,
2 With for - bid - den plea - sures should this vain world charm,
3 Should thy mer - cy send me sor - row, toil, and woe,

lest by base de - ni - al I de - part from thee.
or its sor - did trea - sures spread to work me harm,
or should pain at - tend me on my path be - low,

When thou seest me wa - ver, with a look re - call;
bring to my re - mem - brance sad Geth - sem - a - ne,
grant that I may nev - er fail thy hand to see;

nor from fear or fa - vor suf - fer me to fall.
or, in dark - er sem - blance, cross-crowned Cal - va - ry.
grant that I may ev - er cast my care on thee.

V
+ Jesus Sentenced To Death +

READING

John 18:38b-19:16a

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW #349

(One candle is extinguished.)

VI
+ Jesus Is Nailed to a Cross +

READING

John 19:16b-27

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Let us pray together.

**O God of Mercy, in your Servant Christ was no condemnation or spite.
He who had the power did not lash out in retribution or hatred but took
up his cross in open-hearted acceptance. May we, like Christ, face with
courage the road before us, trusting in your care. Amen.**

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW #351

(One candle is extinguished.)

VII
+ Jesus Dies +

READING John 19:28-37

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

HYMN *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed* ELW #337

***HYMN OF TRIUMPH** *There in God's Garden* ELW #342

(One candle is extinguished.)

VIII
+ Jesus is Buried +

READING John 19:38-42

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us.

HYMN *Were You There* ELW #353
(stanzas 1 and 5)

(The last candle is extinguished. Darkness.)

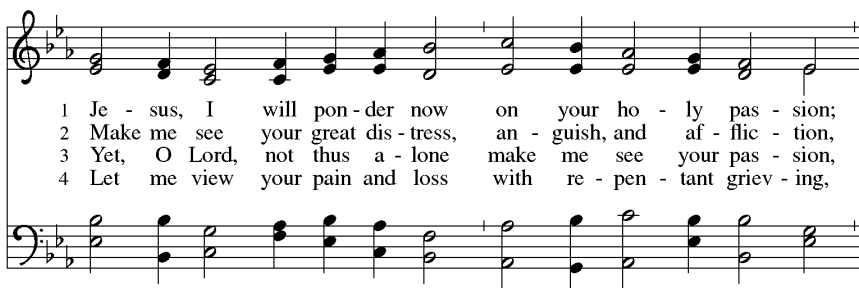
(Silence)

(A single candle is relit.)

(All depart in silence.)

The service continues on Easter Day at 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



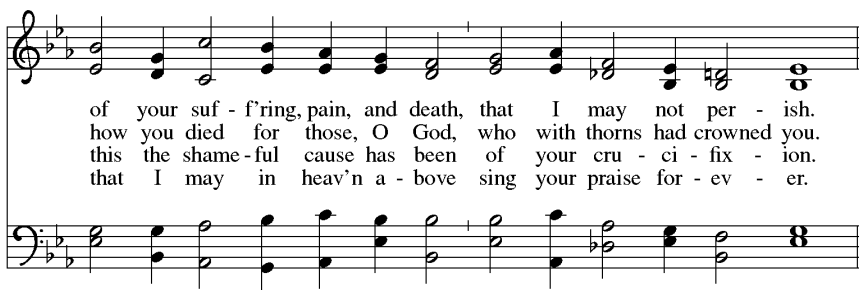
1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,
4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,



let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.
bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;
but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.
nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.

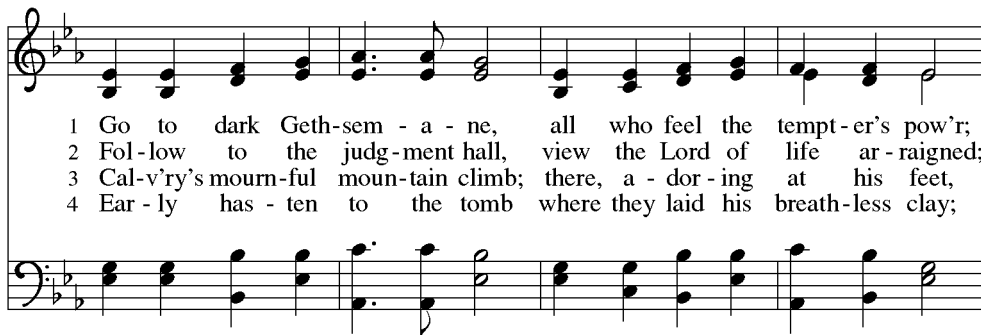


Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,
For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,

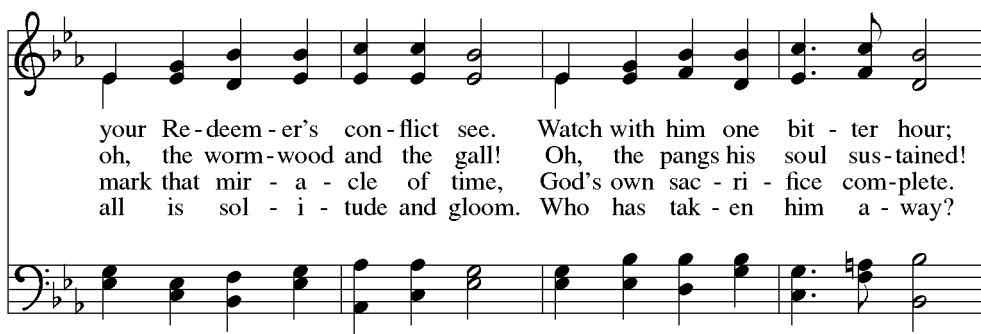


of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.
how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

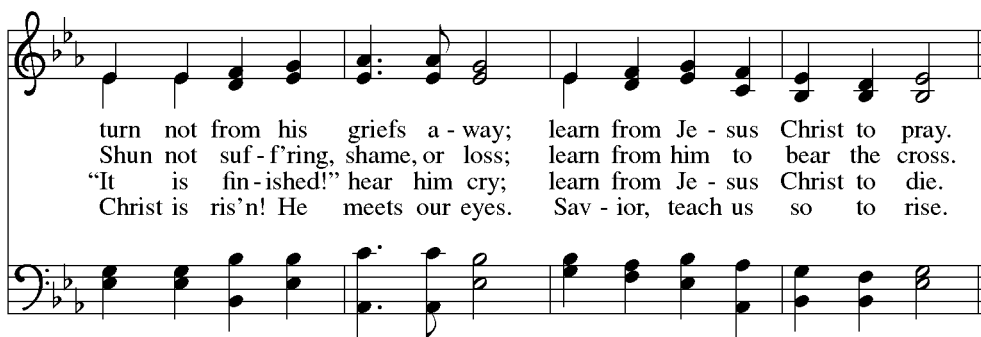
Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



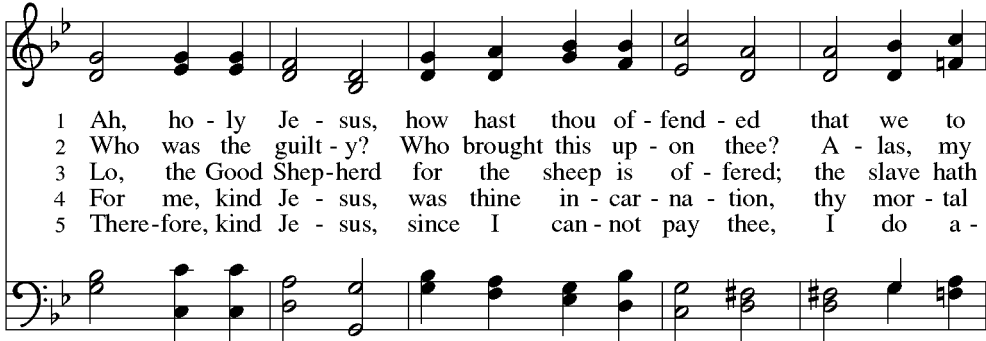
your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



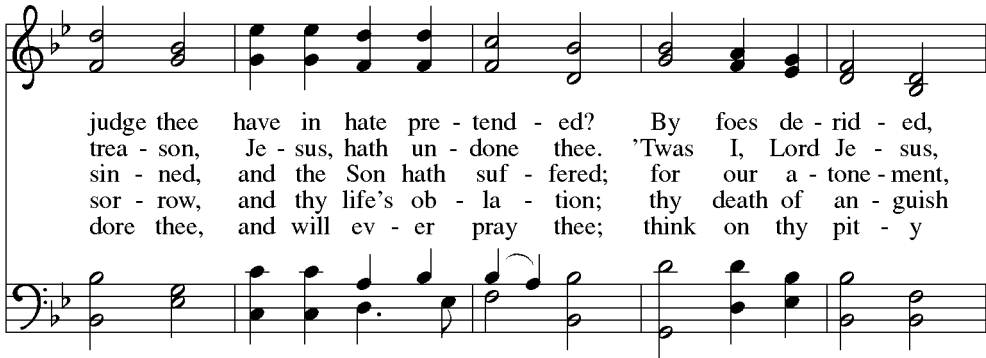
turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

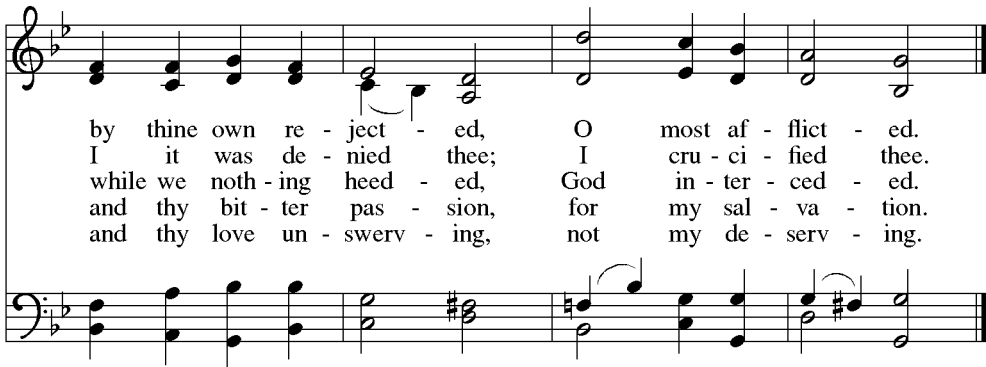
Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weigh'd 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.

The musical score consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with lyrics in German. The music is in a 3/4 time signature and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a corresponding musical staff. The first system includes four numbered lines of lyrics. The second system has three lines. The third system has four lines. The fourth system has three lines. The music is a composite work, with the text by Paul Gerhardt and the melody adapted from a German folk song.

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov - 'reign die?
2 Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way: 'tis all that I can do.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: MARTYRDOM, Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824

There in God's Garden

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!'"
 Amen! My Master!

