

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE

SERVICE OF DARKNESS

Preaching: Rev. James Gier

Assisting Pastor: Rev. Gary Zieroth

Organist: David Musmann



But He was wounded for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His stripes we are healed.

(Isaiah 53:5)



ASCENSION

Evangelical Lutheran Church

8811 St. Joe Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46835

Church 260-486-2226 ✱ alcsfw.org

*Our HOLY WEEK observances will continue with
EASTER MORNING SERVICES at 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM
Easter Breakfast at 8:30 - 9:30 AM*

Please join us for this most joyous celebration of our Lord's resurrection!

Prelude ~ "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (JS Bach)



Choir ~ "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (Martin)

The Pastors and Congregation enter in silence.

(Stand)

OPENING VERSICLES

- P Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
C **yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**
P He was despised and rejected by men,
C **a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.**
P But He was pierced for our transgressions;
C **He was crushed for our iniquities;**
P upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
C **and with His wounds we are healed.**

COLLECT FOR GOOD FRIDAY

- P Let us pray ... Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be 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, now and forever.
(L33)

C **Amen.**

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:13–53:12 (ESV)

^{52:13} Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. ¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—¹⁵ so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. ^{53:1} Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from

whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? ⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

THE REPROACHES

The following Reproaches are the words of the Lord against His people, the Church, to which the congregation replies with a plea for mercy.

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.

A Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

- 1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,
see Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;
Yes, my soul, tis' He, tis' He!
'Tis the long expected Prophet,
David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it:
'Tis the true and faithful Word.**

Text: Public domain

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.

A Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

- 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,
Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning,
Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him,
None would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him,
Was the stroke that justice gave.**

- 3 Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,
Son of man and Son of God.**

Text: Public domain

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.

A Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

**4 Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope is built.**

Text: Public domain

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9 (ESV)

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

^{5:7}In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)



- A We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
- C For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.**
- A God be merciful to us and | bless us,*
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have
mercy up- | on us.
- C We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- |
rection.**
- A For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.

GOSPEL READING

John 19:17–30 (ESV)

¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’ ” ²² Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” ²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, “They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

(Sit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus I Will Ponder Now ~ LSB 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
And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm;
Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won
By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son,
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing Your praise forever.

THE SERMON

(Kneel/Stand)

BIDDING PRAYER

A *Let us pray for the whole Christian Church ...* that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:

P Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God ...*

P Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for our catechumens ...* that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord:

P Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for all in authority ...* that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

P O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially [name], our President; the Congress of the United States; [name], our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray our Lord God Almighty ...* that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:

P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for all who are outside the Church ...* that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

P Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for peace ...* that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:

P Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for our enemies ...* that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

P O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Let us pray for the fruits of the earth ...* that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:

P O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A *Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:*

**C 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.**

(Sit)

Choir ~ "O Come and Mourn with Me" (Williams)

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

In the following meditations we hear the truth of what happened and what Jesus said on the cross nearly 2,000 years ago. In prayerful meditation we proclaim in song this same truth of Christ Crucified for our world today, the very wisdom and power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (1)

*O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession
What dark transgression?*

THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS - Luke 23:33-38

Meditation on the First Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (2–3)

*They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee
They crucify Thee.*

*Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.*

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF CONCERN - Luke 23:39-43

Meditation on the Second Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (4–5)

*What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that love to wander;
The Master pays the debt the servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.*

*The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life as is acquitted;
God is committed.*

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF LOVE - John 19:25-27

Meditation on the Third Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (6–7)

*There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.*

*O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee her, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.*

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF LONELINESS - Matthew 27:45-46

Meditation on the Fourth Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (8–9)

*O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread a- broad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?*

*For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee!
Can I requite Thee?*

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF SUFFERING - John 19:28-29

Meditation on the Fifth Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (10–11)

*Yet, unrequited, Lord I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce what-e'er doth vex or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly
All fires unholy.*

***But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify de- sires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!***

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF VICTORY - John 19:30

Meditation on the Sixth Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (12–13)

***I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.***

***Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me
Nor death alarm me.***

A candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF REUNION - Luke 23:44-46

Meditation on the Seventh Word

Hymn “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” LSB 439 (14–15)

***But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness
Nor shame my weakness.***

***And when, dear Lord, be- fore Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.***

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

REMOVAL OF CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ Candle is removed as we recall our Lord's death and burial.

JESUS IS BURIED

John 19:38–42 (ESV)

³⁸ After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

"STREPITUS"

The "strepitus" is heard, a harsh noise noting the fulfillment of the Law by Jesus, as well as His death, the earthquake, the tearing of the curtain, and the sealing of His tomb.

RETURN OF CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ Candle is returned to its place in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection and victory over death and the grave.

*The Pastors and Congregation depart in silence, without greeting.
We gather again in joy on the Day of Resurrection!*

Acknowledgments

Good Friday, Chief Service from Lutheran Service Book

Good Friday, Tenebrae Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

