

# Good Friday



**Tenebrae**  
**Service of Darkness**

## Worship Notes

Tonight's Service of Darkness, also known as *Tenebrae*, Latin meaning "darkness" or "shadows", is a Holy Week devotion that dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. and is characterized by the successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses.

Divided into several parts, each highlighting the events and places of our Lord's passion during His journey to the cross, the service reflects on the pinnacle of God's salvation plan for us, as it is recorded in his Word.

Shortly following the PROCESSION OF THE CROSS, time will be allowed so that those of you who wish too, may come forward and nail the red slips of paper on which you have written "Lord, my sins too nailed you to the cross." Prompted by the Holy Spirit, you are encouraged to participate in this humble expression of your own guilt thereby joining in confession with all the saints for whom Christ died. Come forward as you are moved to do so, during the singing of the hymn or gospel anthem. As you kneel, speak softly the words "Lord, remember me in your kingdom."

Near the end of the service, the congregation will whisper the Lord's Prayer, after which, the already extinguished Christ candle will be removed, symbolizing our Lord's death and burial. The *strepitus* is heard, a harsh noise indicating the closing of the tomb, and then the lighted Christ candle is returned to its place in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection.

At the conclusion of the service, please leave silently, maintaining the spirit of worship befitting this solemn occasion.

# GOOD FRIDAY

29 March 2024 at 6:00 pm

## AS WE GATHER

Nothing could be more natural than seeking revenge against one who has wronged you. Even the youngest child's untrained sense of fairness demands payback. God's children, however, are not to submit to human thinking but to the Word of God. What do the Scriptures say about our desire for revenge? When King David's enemies rose against him, the Holy Spirit inspired him to pray in Psalm 41:10, "But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!" David prays for vengeance, and God ordains vengeance. Yet the Scriptures also tell us not to "resist the one who is evil" (Matthew 5:39). What are we to make of this paradox? As with all matters of the faith, we must look to our Lord's crucifixion for the answer. For only by the cross is God gracious to you; only at the cross does He demand payment for every injustice.

## PREPARATION

*The lighting is subdued; All enter in silence.*

## WELCOME and OPENING PRAYER

**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, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Philippians 2:8–9; Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a, adapted*

**P** Christ Jesus humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

**C Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name.**

- P** Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,
- C** **thus securing an eternal redemption.**
- P** Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,
- C** **so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Please stand.*

### INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Confident of His redeeming love, let us confess our sins to our gracious God.
- C** **Almighty God, we confess that we are sinful by nature and through our words, thoughts, and deeds. Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. As you believe, so let it be. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

### SONG OF HOPE

### ***“On My Heart Imprint Your Image”***

**LSB 422**

On my heart imprint Your image,  
 Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
 That life’s riches, cares, and pleasures  
 Never may Your work erase;  
 Let the clear inscription be:  
 Jesus, crucified for me,  
 Is my life, my hope’s foundation,  
 And my glory and salvation!

*Please be seated.*

# READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

**OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 52:13-53:12**

*René Hutzell*

## **He Was Wounded for Our Transgressions**

Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
he shall be high and lifted up,  
and shall be exalted.

As many were astonished at you—  
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—  
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.

Who has believed what they heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
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.

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.

Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

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.

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.  
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.  
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?  
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.  
Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
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.  
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.

**L** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PRAYER FOR STEADFAST FAITH

**P** Let us pray. . .

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G Amen.**

## RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 41

*Pastor Marty Tyler*

*Blessèd is the one who considers the poor!*

*In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;*

**the LORD protects him and keeps him alive;**

**he is called blessèd in the land;**

**you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**

*The LORD sustains him on his sickbed;*

*in his illness you restore him to full health.*

**As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me;**

**heal me, for I have sinned against you!”**

*My enemies say of me in malice,*

*“When will he die and his name perish?”*

**And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words,**

**while his heart gathers iniquity;**

**when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**

*All who hate me whisper together about me;*

*they imagine the worst for me.*

**They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him;**

**he will not rise again from where he lies.”**

*Even my close friend in whom I trusted,*

*who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.*

**But you, O LORD, be gracious to me,**

**and raise me up, that I may repay them!**

*By this I know that you delight in me:*

*my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.*

**But you have upheld me because of my integrity,  
and set me in your presence forever.**

*Blessèd be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

*David Wilson*

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup>For 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. <sup>16</sup>Let 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.

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

**L** This is the word of the Lord.

**G Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER FOR REMEMBRANCE**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. . .

Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pain and suffering of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion that we may receive forgiveness of our sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**G Amen.**



**SERMON HYMN*****“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”*****LSB 447:1, 16, 21**

Jesus, in Your dying woes,  
 Even while Your lifeblood flows,  
 Craving pardon for Your foes:  
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

Jesus, all our ransom paid,  
 All Your Father’s will obeyed;  
 By Your suff’rings perfect made:  
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

May Your life and death supply  
 Grace to live and grace to die,  
 Grace to reach the home on high:  
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

**GOD’S FRIDAY MESSAGE*****“Be Gracious To Me”*****Pastor Marty Tyler****SERVICE OF DARKNESS***“Tenebrae”***HYMN OF PREPARATION*****“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”*****LSB 440**

Jesus, I will ponder now  
 On Your holy passion;  
 With Your Spirit me endow  
 For such meditation.  
 Grant that I in love and faith  
 May the image cherish  
 Of Your suff’ring, pain, and death  
 That I may not perish.

Make me see Your great distress,  
 Anguish, and affliction,  
 Bonds and stripes and wretchedness  
 And Your crucifixion;  
 Make me see how scourge and rod,  
 Spear and nails did wound You,  
 How for them You died, O God,  
 Who with thorns had crowned You.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone  
Make me see Your passion,  
But its cause to me make known  
And its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin  
Wrought Your deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause has been  
Of Your crucifixion.

## THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

*John 18:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?”

<sup>5</sup>They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>So he asked them again, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go.” <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.” <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

## RESPONSE

*Psalms 41:7-9*

- P** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me. “A vile disease has afflicted him; he will never get up from the place where he lies.”
- C** **Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.**

*[The first candle is extinguished.]*

**HYMN**

**“O Love, How Deep”**

**LSB 544:1, 5**

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
Beyond all thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!

For us by wickedness betrayed,  
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death;  
For us He gave His dying breath.

**JESUS BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST AND PETER'S DENIAL**

*John 18:12–27*

<sup>12</sup> So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup> First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup> It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

<sup>15</sup> Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, <sup>16</sup> but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup> The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” <sup>18</sup> Now the servants<sup>[b]</sup> and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup> The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup> Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup> Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.”

<sup>22</sup> When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” <sup>24</sup> Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup> Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” <sup>26</sup> One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” <sup>27</sup> Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

## RESPONSE

*Isaiah 53:3*

- P** He was despised and rejected by men;  
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;  
**C** **and as one from whom men hide their faces**  
**he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

*[The second candle is extinguished.]*

## HYMN

### **“Christ, the Life of All the Living”**

**LSB 420:1-3**

Christ, the life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Who, Thyself for me once giving  
To the darkest depths of woe:  
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit  
I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee  
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,  
O Thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver  
From the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast borne the smiting only  
That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,  
Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring,  
Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

## **JESUS BEFORE PILATE**

*John 18:28–40*

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

<sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born, and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” <sup>40</sup>They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

## RESPONSE

*Isaiah 53:2*

- P** For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;
- C** **he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.**

*[The third candle is extinguished.]*

## HYMN

### **“Christ, the Life of All the Living”**

**LSB 420:4-5**

Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,  
Treating Thee with shameful scorn  
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.  
All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,  
That as Thine Thou mightest own me  
And with heav’nly glory crown me.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
Thence I gain security;  
Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
Me to comfort in my anguish.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

## JESUS PREPARED FOR CRUCIFIXION

John 19:1–17

<sup>1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?”

<sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore, he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

<sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” <sup>13</sup>So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic *Gabbatha*. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” <sup>15</sup>They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” <sup>16</sup>So he delivered him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, <sup>17</sup>and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.

## RESPONSE

Isaiah 53:7

- P** He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
**C** **and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.**

*[The fourth candle is extinguished.]*

## HYMN      **“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”      LSB 439:1-2**

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?

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.

*Please stand and face the entrance to the nave.*

## PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

*As the cross is carried in procession, the following SENTENCES are spoken.*

- P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the  
whole world.  
**C** **O come, let us worship Him.**

*The procession moves half-way to the altar.*

- P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the  
whole world.  
**C** **O come, let us worship Him.**

*The procession moves to the front of the altar and the cross is placed in a stand.*

- P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the  
whole world.  
**C** **O come, let us worship Him.**



## THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

*John 19:18–24*

<sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>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.’” <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” <sup>23</sup>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, <sup>24</sup>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...

## RESPONSE

*Isaiah 53:4, 8; Psalm 22:18*

- P** Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- G** **By oppression and judgment he was taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered**
- P** that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?
- G** **they divide my garments among them,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

*Please be seated.*

*[The fifth candle is extinguished.]*

## HYMN “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken” **LSB 439:3, 7**

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.

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

## OUR COMPLICITY

*During the Gospel Anthem, “Were You There,” you are encouraged to reflect upon your own complicity in Christ’s crucifixion. Those who are moved to do so, may come forward to kneel at the foot of the cross and nail or hang a red slip of paper on which you have written, “My sins too have nailed you to the cross” and speak softly the words “Lord, remember me in your kingdom.”*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

**“Were You There”**

**Pastor Marty Tyler**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. . .

Almighty God, You spared not Your only-begotten Son but gave Him unto death on the cross. Grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses, we may be delivered from all evil. Cause us to remember all that our Savior has done for us. Strengthen us to carry our burdens and to endure our sufferings as we, in faith, follow His holy example, always giving thanks to You for Your graciousness to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please stand.*

## JESUS’ MOTHER AND HIS DEATH

*John 19:25–30*

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

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

## RESPONSE

*Psalm 22:1,15*

**P** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from saving me,  
from the words of my groaning?

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

*[The sixth candle is extinguished.]*

## HYMN OF SACRIFICE

**“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”**

**LSB 451:1-3**

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.

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.

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.

## JESUS IS PIERCED

*John 19:31–37*

Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for it was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. <sup>32</sup>So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. <sup>35</sup>He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. <sup>36</sup>For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” <sup>37</sup>And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

## RESPONSE

*Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 22:14*

- P** I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him...as one weeps over a firstborn.
- G** **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; they have pierced my hands and feet—**

*The Christ candle is extinguished.*

- 1 In silent pain the\_ eternal Son  
Hangs derelict and still;  
In darkened day His work is done,  
Fulfilled, His Father’s will.  
Uplifted for the world to see  
He hangs in strangest victory,  
For in His body on the tree  
He carries all our ill.
  
- 2 He died that we might die to sin  
And live for righteousness;  
The earth is stained to make us clean  
And bring us into peace.  
For peace He came and met its cost;  
He gave Himself to save the lost;  
He loved us to the uttermost  
And paid for our release.

**JESUS IS BURIED***John 19:38–42*

<sup>19</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. <sup>40</sup>So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

**RESPONSE***Isaiah 53:9*

- P** And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,  
**G** **although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.**

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.

How pale Thou art with anguish,  
 With sore abuse and scorn!  
 How doth Thy face now languish  
 That once was bright as morn!  
 Grim death, with cruel rigor,  
 Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
 Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor,  
 Thy strength, in this sad strife.

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.

*Please stand.*

### CLOSING PRAYERS

**P** Let us pray. . . We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of salvation and eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

*A moment of silence is observed as we meditate and reflect on the redeeming love of our Savior, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*

**P** Almighty God, our great Redeemer, in the sacrifice of Your Son You put to death our wretched flesh and in His rising restored our life. Grant that we may always cling to Christ by faith as we sojourn in this life that at the last, we may rejoice to stand in our new bodies and see You face to face; through the righteousness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Spoken quietly in unison.*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **REMOVAL OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*The removal of the extinguished Christ candle symbolizes that our Savior hung in darkness for three God-forsaken hours before He died for the sins of the world.*

## **CLOSING OF THE TOMB**

*Strepitus ~ a loud noise symbolizing the sealing of the tomb.*

## **RETURN OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*The lighted Christ candle is returned in recognition that God is eternally alive.*

*\*The pastor and worshippers leave in silence contemplating the solemnity of this Holy Friday as the lights become brighter – a symbol of the growing anticipation of the joys of Easter and our Lord's glorious resurrection!*

*\* Please place your offering in the "I BRING AN OFFERING TO THE LORD" grey box by the ushers' station as you leave this evening. Thank you.*

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

From *Lutheran Service Book* © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (*The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*®) © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by *Lutheran Service Builder* © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.