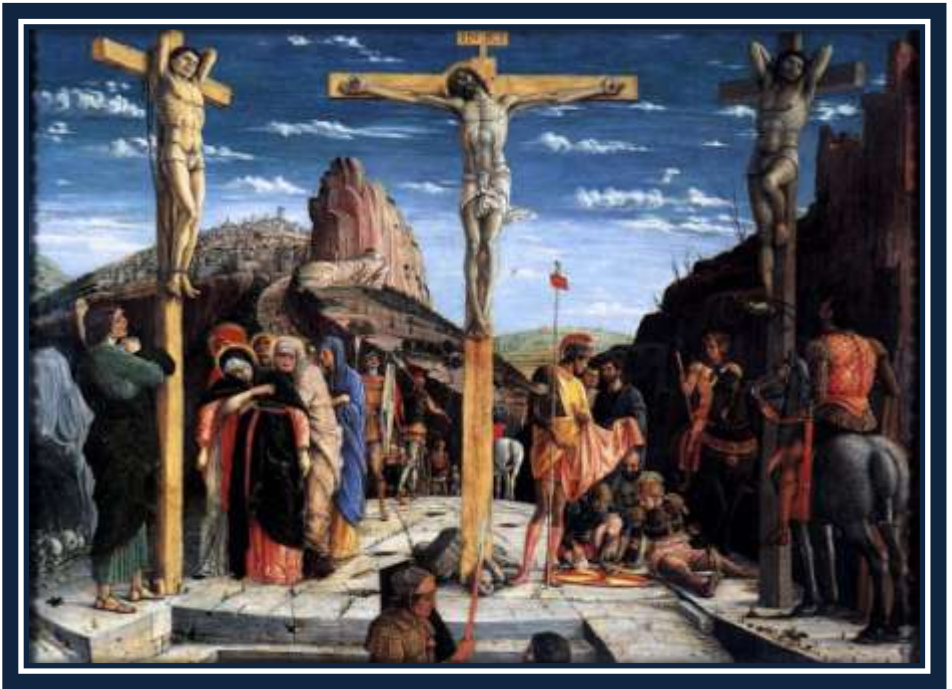


Good Friday Tenebrae

April 3, 2015

7:15 PM



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Festival of Tenebrae

To impress upon the minds and hearts of believers the awful consequences of sin and the magnitude of the Savior's sacrifice, the ancient Church held a special service called Tenebrae on Good Friday. Tenebrae is the Latin word for "darkness." During this service candles are extinguished after a number of Scripture readings, a pair of candles after each reading. As the candles are extinguished, they symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. They also portray the fading Light of the World as Christ was departing from it, reminding us of the events that led to utter darkness on Good Friday.

By the end of the service, all the lights will have been turned off. The sanctuary will be in darkness except for the light of the wall cross. It will remain burning, through the prayers, to symbolize that even in the midst of death and darkness, the forces of hell could not prevail against the Light of Christ. During this time a bell will toll nine times to remind us that Jesus died at the ninth hour, 3:00 in the afternoon. Then the lighted wall cross will also be turned off and the Christ candle will be removed from the sanctuary. The church will then be in total darkness and the "strepitus" will be heard. This is a loud harsh noise that symbolizes the sealing of the door to the tomb by Pilate's soldiers. Shortly thereafter, the wall cross will be relit and the Christ candle will be returned to the sanctuary and placed in the midst of the congregation. It reminds us that even though Satan and wickedness had their hour, yet the light of God's love continues to burn among us throughout all eternity!

(Silence as you leave the building will enable you and your fellow worshipers to carry with you the lessons of the Tenebrae service.)



Divine Service

Service of the Word

Please enter the sanctuary in silence.

Choir: Let All In Us Keep Silent (David Lance III)

Stand

Collect of the Day

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Silence

Stand

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.

C Amen.

Sit

Psalm 31



In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!

Incline your ear to me; rescue me | speedily!*

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to | save me!

For you are my rock and my | fortress;*
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me;

**you take me out of the net they have hidden | for me,*
for you are my | refuge.**

Into your hand I commit my | spirit;*
you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

**I hate those who pay regard to worthless | idols,*
but I trust | in the LORD.**

I will rejoice and be glad in your | steadfast love,*
because you have seen my affliction;
you have known the distress | of my soul,

**and you have not delivered me into the hand of the | enemy;*
you have set my feet in a | broad place.**

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress;*
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with | sighing;*
my strength fails because of my iniquity,
and my bones | waste away.**

Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to
my neighbors, and an object of dread to my ac- | quaintances;*
those who see me in the street | flee from me.

**I have been forgotten like one | who is dead;*
I have become like a broken | vessel.**

For I hear the whispering of many—terror on | every side!—*
as they scheme together against me, as they plot to | take my life.

But I trust in you, | O LORD;*

I say, "You | are my God."

My times are | in your hand;*

rescue me from the hand of my enemies

and from my perse- | cutors!

Make your face shine on your | servant;*

save me in your | steadfast love!

O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call up- | on you;*

let the wicked be put to shame; let them go silently | to Sheol.

Let the lying | lips be mute,*

which speak insolently against the righteous

in pride | and contempt.

Oh, how abundant is your goodness,

which you have stored up for those who | fear you*

and worked for those who take refuge in you,

in the sight of the children of | mankind!

In the cover of your presence you hide them

from the | plots of men;*

you store them in your shelter from the | strife of tongues.

Blesséd | be the LORD,*

for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me

when I was in a besieged | city.

I had said in my alarm, "I am cut off | from your sight."*

But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy

when I cried to | you for help.

Love the LORD, all | you his saints!*

The LORD preserves the faithful

but abundantly repays the one who | acts in pride.

Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*

all you who wait | for the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains 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 sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sit



The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

Reading: The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus: John 18:1–11

436 Go to Dark Gethsemane vs. 1-3

(First set of candles is extinguished.)

+++++

Reading: Jesus Before the High Priest and the Denial of Peter:
John 18:12–27

Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

1. My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die?

(Second set of candles is extinguished.)

+++++

Reading: Jesus Before Pilate: John 18:28–40

Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

2. He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend!

(Third set of candles is extinguished.)

+++++

Reading: Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion: John 19:1–16

Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

3. Sometimes they strew His way
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then “Crucify!”
Is all their breath,
And for His death
They thirst and cry.
4. Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
Themselves displease
And ‘gainst Him rise.

5. They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

(Fourth set of candles is extinguished.)

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Reading: At the Foot of the Cross: John 19:23-27

Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

6. In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.
7. Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

(Fifth set of candles is extinguished.)

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Reading: Jesus' Death: John 19:28-30

(Sixth set of candles is extinguished.)

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Choir: Behold the Lamb by Dana Mengel

(Seventh set of candles is extinguished.)

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Catechism

P *Explanation of the Second Article (second part)*

C **I believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.**

Sermon

"At the Foot of the Cross"

Text: John 19:17-30

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 all in authority that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives 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 our president, the governor of Colorado, and all who have authority over us; 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 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 needs; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Reproaches

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.

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

C 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.

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.

C 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.

449 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Stand

Adoration of Christ

Read Responsively

We adore You, O Lord,

and we praise and glorify Your holy resurrection.

For behold, by the wood of Your cross

joy has come into all the world.

God be merciful to us and bless us,
and cause His face to shine upon us,
and have mercy upon us.

We adore You, O Lord,
and we praise and glorify Your holy resurrection.

For behold, by the wood of Your cross
joy has come into all the world.

454 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle vs. 1-4

The lights are darkened.

P Let us pray the Prayer our Lord has taught us:

Whispered

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.

The Tolling of the Bells

The Strepitus

The Lighting of the Wall Cross

Please leave in silence!



Soli Deo Gloria !

(To God alone be the glory.)



