

# Good Prayer Service 2023

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## Noon

### Hymn 456 “Were You There?”

#### The Words of Jesus from the Cross

*Congregation reads words in bold.*

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

### I.

Luke 23:33-34 When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals, one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.**” And they divided up His clothes by casting lots.

Prayer: O innocent Jesus, by false witness and lies You were condemned to death, but by Your true witness You showed us the way of life. Make us to remember how our sins and evil words and thoughts condemned You to death. May we never again offend You for fear of others, but may we bear the condemnation of the whole world rather than be found false and faithless on the day when you come again to judge the world. **Amen.**

*The first candle is extinguished.*

**Sing LSB 439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken,  
Stanzas 1-2**

### II.

Isaiah 53:4 Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

Luke 23:38-43 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other

criminal rebuked Him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man

has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, **"I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."**

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, You have said, "Whoever does not take up his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me." Grant us grace to bear without shirking from suffering, whatever cross may be ours to carry, and grant that by Your cross the world may be crucified to us and we to the world, and that through Your cross and passion we may gain life everlasting. **Amen.**

*The second candle is extinguished.*

**Congregation, LSB 439, Stanzas 3-4**

### **III.**

Isaiah 53:5 He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds, we are healed.

John 19:25-27 Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, **"Dear woman, here is your son"** and to the disciple, **"Here is your mother."** From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, You have said, "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." Grant that as You bore Your cross willingly for love of us, we may bear our cross for the love of You. Give us grace not to make Your cross heavier by new sins, but save us by Your cross and passion. **Amen.**

*The third candle is extinguished.*

## Congregation: LSB 439, Stanzas 5-6

### IV.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned everyone to his own way. The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Mark 15:33-34 At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani” (which means) **“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”**

Prayer: Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing that you have made and the sins of all who are penitent, You forgive. Create in us new and penitent hearts, that we, lamenting our sins and holding to Your mercy, may receive full forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

## Congregation: LSB 439, Stanza 7-8

### V.

Isaiah 53:10 It was the Lord’s will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life a guilt offering, He will see His offering and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand.

John 19:28 Later, knowing that all was not completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, **“I thirst.”**

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, nailed to the cross for us, crucify in us all that is evil; and with Your precious blood cleanse us from all our sins. Renew a right spirit within us, and strengthen our hearts to forgive others. **Amen.**

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

## Congregation: LSB 439, Stanza 9-10

## VI.

Isaiah 53:11 After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied. By His knowledge my righteous servant will justify many and He will bear their iniquities.

John 19:29-30 A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, **"It is finished."**

1 Peter 3:18 "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God."

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

**Congregation LSB 439, Stanza 11-12**

## VII.

Isaiah 53:12 He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with transgressors, yet He bore the sins of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

Luke 23:46 Jesus called out with a loud voice,

**Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit."** When He had said this, He breathed his last.

Prayer: Almighty and everlasting God, out of tender love toward your creation You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to become our flesh and to suffer death on the cross, that all flesh should follow the example of His deep humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience and also be made partakers of the resurrection. **Amen.**

**Congregation LSB 439 Stanzas 13-15**

**The Bidding Prayer.** Congregation responds **"Amen"** to each petition. **The Lord's Prayer** is said.

**Hymn 543 What Wondrous Love Is This.**