

THE RESPONSE

P: My sacrifice is a submissive spirit, O God;

C: a submissive and obedient heart you will not reject

P: Because He bore the sins of many,

C: and made intercession for the transgressors.

THE HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LW #115:1,3/LSB #425

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the prince of glory dies,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

THE READING

The Sealing of the Tomb

Matthew 27:55-66

THE RESPONSE

P: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God of my salvation. [My] sacrifice is a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, O God You will not despise.

+Now there is total darkness and utter silence for a few moments.

+Then we whisper the Lord's Prayer together.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ There is no blessing--the service concludes on Easter Day!

+ WE LEAVE IN SILENCE and IN NEAR DARKNESS and wait to be "confronted with new life"
by **celebrating the Resurrection.**

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Good Friday-The Tenebrae Service-A

The Passion according to Matthew

Tonight, God in Christ confronts sin, death and the devil. Through His active and passive obedience on our behalf, Jesus follows His prayer to His Father, yes our Father, "Not My will, but Your Will be done." Jesus submits to death, even death on a cross. Yet there is more, we know that the through His death, the serpent's head is finally crushed, death is defeated, sin is atoned for, and His sacrifice is accepted by the Father, so we confess that Jesus is Lord, over death, even my death. "

TENEBRAE means "darkness" - - - *This service will see the gradual darkening of all the lights in the sanctuary. Only the eternal light will remain, and it, too, will be hidden for a brief moment. This darkening symbolizes the seemingly apparent victory of the powers of darkness over Jesus Christ after being forsaken by His disciples and abandoned by His Father at the time of His sacrificial death and brutal murder on the cross.*

At the end of the service, the eternal light is returned to remind us that our one LIGHT OF HOPE, Jesus, still shines on, in spite of the darkness of our sinfulness, the evil of this world and the threat of death. In this way, we look forward to singing the song of Easter victory, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Lord of Life, and the actual conclusion of this worship service on Sunday at 7am and 10am. Easter Breakfast is served between the two services beginning at 8am. We thank the Lord for the Jubilate Choir their director, Susan Jahnke & Addie Rossow accompanied by Jodi Pierce for the blessing of music tonight.

In order to maintain the dramatic impact of this remembrance, please observe the following:

- + read the notes at the end of the service, first.
- + your sincere and meditative attention is requested for each reading. After a pause, a response from Psalm 51 and/or Isaiah 53 follows, which in turn is followed by a hymn.
- + avoid rustling papers; during the readings, give undivided attention to the Scriptures.
- + please leave in SILENCE and DARKNESS remembering that Light which lingers and casts hope through the gloom of Good Friday.
- + it is suggested that you return home in silence after this service. You may for your devotion avoid television and other activities that might distract from a quiet ending to this day and its message.

THE READING

Insulting Confessions

Matthew 27:39-44

THE RESPONSE

P: Hide your face from my sins, O Lord,

C: **and wipe out all my evil.**

P: But he was mutilated for our transgressions, and mangled for our sins;

C: **the punishment for our peace was on Him, and by His stripes, we are healed.**

THE HYMN

"Jesus, I Will Ponder"

LW #109:5,6/LSB #440

If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm, Peace and pardon give me.

Grant that I may trust in You And Your holy Passion;
If His Son forgives anew, God must have compassion.

Jesus, Lord, my heart renew, Let me bear my crosses
Learning humbleness from You, Peace despite my 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 READING

Jesus' Confesses Psalm 22

Matthew 27:45-50

THE RESPONSE

P: All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned, each in his own way,

C: **and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

THE HYMN

"Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

LW #97: 1,3/LSB #437:1,3

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head For... such a worm as I?

2. Was it for sins that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love... beyond degree!

3. Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut its glories in
When God, the mighty Maker died, For man... the creature's sin.

THE READING

True Confession of Jesus

Matthew 27:51-54

CHORAL RESPONSE

"In Pilate's Hall"

Jubilate Choir

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

THE READING

A Mocking, but True Confession

Matthew 27:27-31

RINGING OF THE BELL, ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RESPONSE

P: Surely he has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows;

C: **yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

SOLO:

"Why?"

Words by Nichole Nordeman (*altered*)

We rode into town the other day, just me and my daddy. He said I'd finally reached that age and I could ride, next to him on a horse that of course was not quite as wide. We heard a crowd of people shouting, and so we stopped to find out why. And there was a man that my dad said he loved, but to day there was fear in his eyes. So I said, "Daddy why are they screaming? Why are the faces of some beaming? Why is he dressed in that bright purple robe? I'll bet that crown hurts him more than he shows. Daddy, please, can't you do something? He looks as though he's gonna cry. You said He was stronger than all those guys. Daddy, please tell me why, why does ev'ryone want Him to die?"

THE HYMN

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

LW#116:3,4/LSB #451

You 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;
It's the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation; Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ, the rock of our salvation, His 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 have built.

Later that day they sky grew cloudy and Daddy said I should go inside. Somehow he knew things would get stormy. Boy, was he right. But I could not keep from wond'ring if there was something he had to hide. So after he left I had to find out I was not afraid of getting lost. So I followed the crowds to a hill where I knew men had been killed, and I heard a voice come from the cross. And it said, "Father, why are they screaming? Why are the faces of some of them beaming? *Here, they are casting lots for my robe.* This crown of thorns hurts me more than it shows. Father, please, can't You do something? I know that You must hear My cry. *Its hard to handle a cross this size. Father, I know the why...the "why" ev'yone wants me to die.* Oh, when will *they* understand why?"

THE READING

Confessing the King of the Jews

Matthew 27:32-38

THE RESPONSE

P: He was taken from prison to judgment; who shall declare his generation?

C: **For He was cut off from the land of the living, for the sins of my people He was stricken.**

P: It was the will of the Lord to bruise Him; he has put him to grief,

C: **because he poured out his life to death, and was counted among evil-doers.**

"My precious Son, I hear them screaming, and I'm watching the face of the enemy beaming. But soon I will clothe You in robes of My own. Jesus, this hurts Me more than *they* know. But this dark hour, I must do nothing, though I've heard Your unbearable cry. The pow'r of Your blood destroys all of the lies. *Soon they'll see past their unmerciful eyes.* Look there below, see the child trembling by her father's side. *Indeed, You know the why.* She is why You must die.

THE HYMN

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

LW #113:1,3/LSB #450

O sacred head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, your only crown.

O sacred head, what glory And bliss did once combine;
Though now despised and gory, I joy to call you mine!

All this for my transgression, My wayward soul to win;
This torment of your Passion, To set me free from sin.

I cast myself before you, Your wrath my rightful lot;
Have mercy, I implore you, O Lord, condemn me not!

STAND

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

THE GOOD FRIDAY HOMILY

Colossians 1:13-14

"Jesus is Lord, Even Over My Death."

*(silent time for confessing our sins, especially of not confronting sin in our own lives,
and finally meditating on God's confrontation in Christ of sin, death and the devil for us.)*

THE HYMN

Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see you wounded, bleeding, See your throne encircled brow?
Yet your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: and also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing confront sin, death and the devil, by being betrayed, given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross, who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SIT

THE OFFERING our response of faith in Him who confronted all that was wrong in life, we sing...

THE OFFERING HYMN

Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe.
Christ, yourself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe:
Through your suffering, death and merit Life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you.

You have suffered great affliction And have borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
For You chose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto You.

Then, for all that bought my pardon, For the sorrows deep and sore.
For the anguish in the garden, I will thank You evermore,
Thank You for the groaning, sighing, For the bleeding and the dying,
For that last triumphant cry, Praise You evermore on high.

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

LW #90:1,2/LSB #423

THE HYMN

Jesus! Oh, how could it be true, A mortal man ashamed of You?
Ashamed of You, whom angels praise, Who glories shine through endless days?

Ashamed of Jesus, that dear friend On whom my hopes of heaven depend?
No; when I blush, be this my shame, That I no more revere His name.

THE READING

They Act on Jesus' Confession

Matthew 27:1-2

THE RESPONSE

P: He was despised and rejected by us, a man of sorrows, knowing grief;

C: and we hid, as it were, our faces from him; he was despised, and we gave him no honor.

THE HYMN

"Go To Dark Gethsemane"

LW #110:2/LSB #436

Follow to the judgement hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from him to bear the cross.

THE READING

Unforgiven Confession of Sin

Matthew 27:3-10

THE RESPONSE

P: Spare my life, O God my Savior, so that I can gladly proclaim your righteousness:

C: let me hear again the sounds of joy and of gladness, and though you have crushed me and broken me, I will be joyful once again.

THE HYMN

"In the Hour of Trial"

LW #511:1/LSB #0

In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me
Lest by base denial I depart from thee.
When thou see'st me waver, With a look recall
Nor, for fear or favor Suffer me to fall.

THE READING

What Kind of Confession?

Matthew 27:11-26

THE RESPONSE

P: He was oppressed and he was afflicted,

C: yet he opened not His mouth;

P: like sheep led to slaughter, or a sheep before its shearers is silent

C: so he opened not His mouth.

THE RESPONSE

P: I have been sinful from birth, sinful from my conception.

C: Give me again the joy of your salvation; give me a willing spirit.

THE HYMN

"A Lamb Alone Bears Willingly"

LW #111:1, 2/LSB #0

1. A lamb alone bears willingly Sin's crushing weight for sinners;

He carries guilt's enormity, Dies shorn of all His honors.

He goes to slaughter, weak and faint, Is led away with no complaint

His spotless life to offer, He bears the stripes, the wrath, the lies,

The mockery, and yet replies, "Willing all this I suffer."

2. This Lamb is Christ, our soul's great Friend, The Lamb of God, our Savior;

Whom God the Father chose to send Our rebel guilt to cover.

"Go down, My Son," the Father saith, "To free my children from their dread,

Of death and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,

But in your death they can share The joy of your salvation."

THE READING

Humanity Condemns Jesus' Confession

Matthew 26:57-68

THE RESPONSE

P: A faithful heart is what you want; so fill my mind with your wisdom.

C: Help me to speak, O Lord, and I will praise you.

"THE HYMN

"O Dearest Jesus"

LW #119:1,3/LSB #439

O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken

That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?

Of what great crime have you to make confession, What dark transgression?

What is the source of all your mortal anguish?

It is my sins for which You, Lord, must languish;

Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you inherit, This I do merit.

THE READING

A Wrong Confession

Matthew 26:69-75

THE RESPONSE

P: Remove my sin and I will be clean;

C: wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

P: Hide Your face from my sins, O Lord;

C: And wipe out all my evil.

-6-

after the offering we sing...

THE HYMN OF INTRODUCTION

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

LW#109:1/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 suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.

THE READING

An Over Confident Confession Confronted

Matthew 26:30-35

THE RESPONSE

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

C: according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

P: Against You, only against You, have I sinned, and done evil in your sight -

C: So you are right in sentencing me; and blameless are your judgments against me.

THE HYMN

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

LW#110:1/LSB #436:1

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r

Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;

Turn not from his griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

THE READING

Jesus' Obedient Confession

Matthew 26:36-43

THE RESPONSE

P: Create in me a clean heart, O God

C: and put a new and right spirit in me.

P: Cast me not away from your presence,

C: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

THE HYMN

"On My Heart"

LW #100/LSB #422

On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed 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.

THE READING

Betrayal and yet Submission

Matthew 26:45-56