

Oh . . . Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

STREPITUS

(The Christ Candle is removed & The Tomb is sealed)

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

+ Then we whisper the Lord's Prayer together.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, remember us when You come into Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

CLOSING WORDS

(Christ candle is returned)

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION

Please depart in silence.

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

WE LEAVE IN ABSOLUTE SILENCE and IN NEAR DARKNESS and wait for the
Resurrection Victory Celebration, for God has accepted His sacrifice.

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April 19, 2019

Good Friday-The Tenebrae Service

AS WE GATHER We contemplate our Lord's Passion unfolding and ending as He submits Himself to the frailty of human flesh-even to the point of death. Today we hear and meditate on the words of Christ on the cross. At His final moment, He speaks the words "It is finished!"-simple words giving us unending hope. Praise be to Christ, who endured cross and torment-all of hell-for the forgiveness of our sins.

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. Jesus is under the curse of the Law.

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 and the evil of this world. Because of Jesus and His death on the cross, we are forgiven, the curse of the Law has been removed and so we give hope to others as we are more forgiving. Therefore, we look forward to Easter, the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the actual conclusion of this worship service on Sunday at 7am. There is also a celebration service at 10am on Sunday. Easter Breakfast is 8-9:30am.

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 the choir or a congregational hymn.
- + avoid rustling papers; during the readings, give undivided attention to the Scriptures.
- + please leave in SILENCE and DARKNESS after the service 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.

We thank the Lord for our instrumentalists Susan Jahnke-organist and director, Hannah Norton, McKenna Norton, Jacob Sell, Emily Sell, Carolyn Hall, Andrea Samsten, and others, who all worked to enhance our worship this evening.

RINGING OF THE BELL

PREPARATION

Stand

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously be with us for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross that He might draw the whole world to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our forgiveness and life may also glory in His call to take up our cross and follow Him; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

LW #440:1 & 4

1 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 suffring, pain, and death That I may not perish.

4 Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.

How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?

THE READING

Jesus is condemned to death

John 18:28-19:16

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Upon the Cross Extended"

LSB 453: 1 & 5

1 Upon the cross extended See, world, your Lord suspended.
Your Savior yields His breath. The Prince of Life from heaven
Himself has freely given To shame and blows and bitter death.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded, Your head with thorns surrounded,
You died to ransom me. The cross for me enduring,
The crown for me securing, You healed my wounds and set me free.

SEVENTH WORD **"Into Your hands I commit My spirit." Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 27:51**

P: Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus Christ, as You gave Your life on the cross in our place, You commended Your spirit into the loving hands of Your heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. When our last hour comes, grant us peace, that we may close our eyes with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever in the hands of our heavenly Father.

C: Amen.

HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LSB 425: 1 & 4

1 When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

READING

"The burial of Jesus"

John 19:38-42

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

"Were You There"

LSB 456: 1 & 2

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh . . . Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

THE FIRST WORD**"Father, forgive them . . ."****Luke 23:32-38**

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.**PRAYER**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace. When You were mocked, You did not respond with harsh words. When You were tormented, You did not react in anger. When You were nailed to the cross, You prayed for the forgiveness of those who caused You to suffer. Give to us the virtues of gentleness, patience, and a forgiving spirit. Teach us also to love our enemies, and as children of the heavenly Father, to live in Your peace.

C: Amen.**HYMN****"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"****LSB 423: 1 & 3**

1 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.

3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew

Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

THE SECOND WORD "Today you will be with Me in paradise."**Luke 23:39-43**

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.**PRAYER**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite mercy, You heard the plea of the dying thief on the cross next to You. We pray that You would open our hearts to welcome those who turn to You, and rejoice in their salvation. When our last hour comes, hold us firm in our faith, and bring us also to live with You in paradise.

C: Amen.**HYMN****"Christ, the Life of All the Living"****LSB 420: 1 & 7**

1 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 eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,

Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

THE THIRD WORD "Here is your son . . . here is your mother."**John 19:25-27**

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.**PRAYER**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, while You suffered the agony of the cross, Your thoughts turned to the welfare of others. Your concern was for Your mother in her sorrow. We pray that You would regard with pity all parents who mourn the death of their children, and all parents who sorrow because their children have gotten into trouble or forsaken their faith. By the power of Your healing, we pray that parents and children know peace and that relationships be restored.

C: Amen.**HYMN****"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"****LSB 451: 1 & 3**

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.

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.

THE FOURTH WORD'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'"Matthew 27:45-47

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.**PRAYER**

P: Lord God, Father of all people and Creator of all that exists, You hold all people in Your power. We pray that You would not forsake the world that Your Son died to redeem. Even though we still see the influence of sin and evil all around us, assure us of Your continued presence in our midst. Help us to know Your love in our lives, so we can show Your presence to others.

C: Amen.