



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Good Friday, April 15, 2022

The Good Friday Tenebrae helps us experience the time of darkness that occurred during Jesus' crucifixion. The Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness") is a worship service observed during Holy Week to impress upon us the horrifying consequences of our sin and the magnitude of our Savior's sacrifice for us. Candles are extinguished to remind us of the darkness of that day and the darkness of our sinful world. Tonight, we use seven candles as we remember Jesus' seven last words from the cross. The removal of the Christ Candle near the end of the Tenebrae signifies the death of Jesus. The loud sound—the *strepitus*—represents the closing of the tomb. However, we do not leave in total darkness. The return of the Christ Candle reminds us that death is not the end of Jesus, nor the end of us. We depart in both silence and confidence, knowing that the light of Easter will soon scatter the darkness of Good Friday.

AS WE GATHER

Sign: Cross Road

"It is finished." John 19:30 Like signs we see along the roads that tell us what to do, we see signs along the way on our Lenten journey that show us the way to Christ. In our Good Friday worship, we see heaven and earth intersect at the Cross Road of the cross of Christ, where the sinless Son of God takes away the sins of the whole world.

PRELUDE:

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded" by Arnold B Sherman; Handbells

We continue our worship begun on Maundy Thursday and concluding on Easter Sunday.

OPENING SENTENCES

From Psalm 22

- P** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
- C** **All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; "He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"**
- P** They have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
- C** **They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.**
- P** All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
- C** **For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us confess our sins to God, asking forgiveness in the name of our Savior, who was pierced by nails, mocked and forsaken for us.

We take a moment of silence to reflect on Christ's passion for us.

- P** Almighty God,
- C** **we do not obey your commandments and we turn from your Word. Daily we reject your will for our lives and follow our own desires. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus our Savior, who carried our sins in his own body to the cross.**
- P** On the cross Jesus suffered the punishment we deserve for our sins. You are washed clean in his blood. For his sake and by his command, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- C** **All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; for kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations! Amen.**

MEDITATION

HYMN: "MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN"

LSB 430



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
 6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
 have; In death no friend - ly tomb But what a strang - er



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
 gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.
 But mine the tomb Where - in He lay.



✠ THE TENEBRAE SEQUENCE ✠

FIRST WORD

John 19:14–16a, Luke 23:32–34a

Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" 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." So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. And Jesus said, "**Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.**"

HYMN: "O DARKEST WOE"

LSB 448

1 O dark - est woe! Ye tears, forth flow! Has
 4 Thy Bride - groom dead! God's Lamb has bled Up -
 7 O Je - sus Christ, Who sac - ri - ficed Thy

earth so sad a won - der? God the Fa - ther's
 on thy sin for - ev - er, Pour - ing out His
 life for life - less mor - tals: Be my life in

on - ly Son Now is bur - ied yon - der.
 sin - less self In this vast en - deav - or.
 death and bring Me to heav - en's por - tals!

The first candle is extinguished.

SECOND WORD

Luke 23:35-43

And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And He said to him, "**Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.**"

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Abide With Me*

Choir

The second candle is extinguished.

THIRD WORD

John 19:25–27

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and 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, **“Woman, behold, your son!”** Then He said to the disciple, **“Behold, your mother!”** And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

HYMN: “STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED”

LSB 451

1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
 tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
 His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
 soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed
 sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
 Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
 see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.

The third candle is extinguished.

FOURTH WORD

Matthew 27:45–47

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, **“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”** And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This Man is calling Elijah.”

HYMN: “STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED”

LSB 451

3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
 4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
 lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the
 guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners

point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall

Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

FIFTH WORD

Matthew 10:38–42, John 19:28–29

And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. “Whoever receives you receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), **“I thirst.”** 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.

HYMN: “O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED”

LSB 450

1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;

Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.

O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

SIXTH WORD

Hebrews 9:11–12, 15, 27–28, John 19:30a

But when Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the Holy Places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption . . . Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant . . . And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.

When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, **“It is finished.”**

HYMN: “O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED”

LSB 450

2 How pale Thou art with an-guish, With sore a-buse and scorn!
 5 What lan-guage shall I bor-row To thank Thee, dear-est Friend,
 How doth Thy face now lan-guish That once was bright as morn!
 For this Thy dy-ing sor-row, Thy pit-y with-out end?
 Grim death, with cru-el rig-or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
 O make me Thine for-ev-er! And should I faint-ing be,
 Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig-or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
 Lord, let me nev-er, nev-er, Out-live my love for Thee.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

PRAYER

- P** Almighty God, we ask You to look with mercy on Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given over to the hands of sinful men to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
- C** Amen.

Removal of the Christ Candle



The Strepitus



Return of the Christ Candle

THE 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.

There is no Benediction as this is not the end but it is preparation for our Easter Celebration.

We leave in silence.

