



Lutheran Church & Christian School



Good Friday
“Seven Words of Life”
7:00 p.m.

March 29, 2024

Redeemed, Restored, & Rejoicing in Jesus!

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Mission Statement

[Who We Are]

Leading with the Gospel, we at Trinity Lutheran Church and School strive to:

**HUMBLY AND KNOWINGLY FOLLOW JESUS,
SEEKING JOY THROUGH HIM IN WORSHIP,
TEACHING, AND PRAYER.**



Vision Statement

[Who We Endeavor to Be]

Leading with the Gospel, we at Trinity Lutheran Church and School endeavor to:

**LIVE [up] BY FAITH, BE KNOWN [out] BY
CHRIST'S LOVE, and REJOICE [in] HIS
FORGIVENESS.**

"Redeemed and restored, we are rejoicing in Jesus!"

AS WE GATHER

The services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter are essentially one worship service – continuing for three consecutive days. Historically these days are called the **Triduum** in Latin, simply meaning “the three days.” Our theme for this year’s services is: “Return to the Table ... the Cross ... the Empty Tomb”

In this worship service, we focus on the seven Words that Jesus spoke and prayed from the cross. Jesus had no epitaph. He left no legal Last Will & Testament. However, during our Savior’s final hours, He left us Words of great hope and mercy. From His first breath to His last, these seven simple sentences, uttered amidst suffering and complete surety, have sustained many a soul in their time of uncertainty and need. Jesus’ Words still beckons us, as He is given and shed “for you.” Therefore, welcome to today’s worship. Welcome to ... hope!

Note: this evening’s service ends in silence. As all three services of Holy Week form one continuous service, there will be no invocation or benediction in this service, which stands at the crux of the other two. As we have come to reflect on the covenant which our Lord made – sealing it with His very life – may we be blessed to know that He has done it for us. There is no greater promise. There is no greater gift!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

As worshipers enter tonight’s service, you are invited to proceed forward toward the chancel, where a large wooden cross has been placed. Hammers and nails are provided. Adults assist children, and all worshipers are invited to contemplate Christ’s sacrifice by hammering individual nails into the crossbeams.

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER “Father, Forgive Them” (Words & Music by Andrew Peterson)

RINGING OF THE BELLS (33 times for each year of our Lord’s earthly life.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ✠ the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be and abide with you all.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor: Now is the time of God's favor;

Congregation: Now is the day of salvation.

Pastor: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

Congregation: That the light of Your face may shine on us.

Pastor: May Your justice shine like the sun;

Congregation: And may the poor be lifted up.

OPENING HYMN "With Words that Last Forever"

[TUNE: *LSB 449*]

With words that last forever You speak in richest grace,
Lord Jesus Christ, my Savior, upon Your cross disgraced.

With open ears I listen, with open mind believe,
With open heart embrace You: I, Lord, Your words receive.

"Forgiveness" granted sinners, and "Paradise, today!"

"Behold your son, your mother!" to family You say.

The air is split with anguish in Your "Forsaken" cry,
As "Thirsty," work "Accomplished," in "Father's hands" You die.

Pray, sanctify the silence with which I contemplate
Your boundless love for sinners, Your sacrifice so great,
Till at the tomb I waken to Your new Word for me:
These words, not last, but lasting, shall ring eternally!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, who willed that Your Son should
bear for us the pains of the cross, and so remove from us the
power of the adversary to accuse,

**Congregation: Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion,
that we may receive forgiveness for our sins, and salvation to
eternal life for all who believe this Promise; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (*He was pierced for our transgression.*)

¹³ Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
He shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—
His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and His form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵ so shall He sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of Him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

53 Who has believed what He has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

² For He grew up before Him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him,
and no beauty that we should desire Him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

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

⁵ But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and He was afflicted,
yet He opened not His mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so He opened not His mouth.

⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away;
and as for His generation, who considered
that He was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹ And they made His grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in His death,
although He had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in His mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him;
He has put Him to grief;
when His soul makes an offering for guilt,
He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

¹¹ Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied;
by His knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many,
and He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because He poured out His soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.



EPISTLE READING Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 (*Jesus the great High Priest.*)

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. ...

⁷ In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence. ⁸ Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR "Were You There?"

(Mike Stewart, Vocalist)



THE FIRST WORD: Luke 23:34

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words"

(©2004 Gregory Wismar, TUNE: Kingsfold, LSB 444)

**Our Savior spoke with seven words as on the cross He died;
Through pain and sorrow echoed hope when He was crucified.
The first word His forgiveness gave to those who did Him ill;
And blessing like a river flowed from Calv'ry's holy hill.**

THE SECOND WORD: Luke 23:43

"I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words"

**The second word gave heaven's hope; the dying thief found peace –
For Jesus promised on this day His joy would never cease.
To meet His grieving mother's needs His third word did He share
And brought a new relationship for John and Mary there.**



THE THIRD WORD: John 19:26b

"Dear woman, here is your son ... Here is your mother."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"O Perfect Life of Love"

LSB 452, St. 1, 5-7



THE FOURTH WORD: Matthew 27:46

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words"

**The fourth word from Christ's loneliness and desolation came
As sinking in abandonment He called His Father's name.
As for the sins of all He died, the Shepherd for the sheep,
His fifth word of His thirst He spoke to slake the sorrow deep.**

THE FIFTH WORD: John 19:28

"I thirst."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

LSB 451, St. 1, 3-4



THE SIXTH WORD: John 19:30

"It is finished."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words"

**The sixth word spoke of victory – His hours of passion done;
His finished work to God He gave as ever-faithful Son.
And with His labor at its end His last word came as prayer
Committing all He did and was to God's unending care.**



THE SEVENTH WORD: Luke 23:46

"Father, into Your hands I commit my Spirit."

MEDITATION

HYMN

"Our Savior Spoke with Seven Words"

**Our Savior spoke with seven words as on the cross He died
Through pain and sorrow echoed hope when He was crucified.
In garden tomb His body lay awaiting Easter day;
With resurrection hope may we yet follow in His way.**

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

OFFERTORY "His Will Was Done?" (*Words & Music by J. Paul Williams & Ruth Elaine Schram*)

For those desiring to leave an offering, an offering plate is placed in the rear of the sanctuary. You may leave your offering as you depart this evening's worship.

LITANY OF THE CROSS

Pastor: Jesus, Son of God and Redeemer of the world:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, sold by Judas for thirty pieces of silver:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, betrayed by a friend with a kiss:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, bound by the soldiers and forsaken by the disciples:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, accused by false witnesses:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, found guilty and sentenced to death:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, spat upon, blindfolded and struck on the face:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, denied three times by Peter:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, rejected in favor of Barabbas:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, whipped and bruised for our sins:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor: Jesus, covered with a scarlet robe and crowned with thorns:

Congregation: Have mercy on us.

Pastor:	Jesus, demanded for crucifixion by Your own:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, laden with the heavy weight of the cross:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, stripped of Your garments and nailed to the cross:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, declaring Yourself forsaken by the cross:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, crying out in agony that it is finished:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, pierced with spear and taken down from the cross:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Jesus, laid in the tomb:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:
Congregation:	Have mercy on us.
Pastor:	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Congregation:	Grant us Your peace.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Prayed softly.)*

Pastor:	Taught by our Lord, and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
Congregation:	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.

EXITING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*The Christ candle is taken from the sanctuary as the lights are completely turned off. After a brief time, a loud noise (the **strepitus**) is heard, symbolizing the closing of the tomb, the earthquake at the time of Christ's death, and the "closing of the book" on Jesus' sacrifice and our sin.*

BIDDING PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, we thank You that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to hold fast Your Word in hearts which You have cleansed, that thereby we may be made strong in faith and perfect in holiness, and be comforted in both life and in death; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

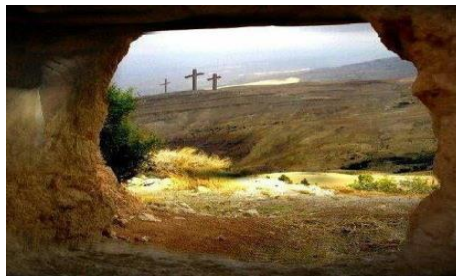
Congregation: Amen.

The Christ candle is then returned to its place at the altar, symbolizing that "it is finished." Our redemption is complete.

The pastor and worshipers leave the church in silence.

Those wishing to do so may stay as long as they wish for further meditation.

God's people gather again in "three days" to celebrate Christ's Resurrection. Services are at 6:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., with a breakfast served @ 7:30 a.m. and Bible class to follow @ 9:00 a.m.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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