



April 7, 2023

Good Friday

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Due to the solemn celebration of this week, there is no Prelude, Musical Offering, and Postlude. Only hymns are accompanied. Our worship concludes in darkness to remind us of our sin which God forgives through Jesus' death and resurrection. Today marks the second of the three holy days called the Triduum. Therefore at the end of our worship the Benediction is omitted until Easter and all leave in silence.

The Congregation gathers in silence.

Procession of the Cross

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

O come, let us worship Him.

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Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

- ♪ Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.
- ♪ Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
- ♪ Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; They that drink shall thirst no more.
- ♪ They that drink shall live forever; ’Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 435 -Text: James Montgomery 1771-1854

Tune: Ludwig M. Lindeman 1812-87, setting: Lutheran Book of Worship 1978; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Confession and Absolution

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. 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.

Hebrews 4:14-15

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.

Hebrews 4:16

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

A Time of Silence

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Prayer

Let us pray. Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Words of Our Lord

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

- ♪ 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 suff’ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.
- ♪ Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
- ♪ Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion,
But its cause to me make known And its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.
- ♪ 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?
- ♪ If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion!
- ♪ Graciously my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You, Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav’n above Sing Your praise forever.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 440 -Text: Sigismund von Birken 1626-81; tr. August Crull 1845-1923;
Tune: Melchior Vulpius c.1570-1615; Setting: Lutheran Book of Worship 1978; Public Domain.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:13–53:12

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

¹⁴As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,

and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵so 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.

¹Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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.

³He 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.

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

⁵But 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.

⁶All 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.

⁷He 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.

⁸By 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?

⁹And 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.

¹⁰Yet 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.

¹¹Out 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.

¹²Therefore 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.

Verse Hymn

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

♪ 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.

♪ Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?

Friends thro’ fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress;

Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would intervene to save;

But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that justice gave.

♪ 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.

♪ Here we have a firm foundation, Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, Is 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.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 451 -Text: Thomas Kelly 1769-1855; Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn 1850;
Setting: Paul G. Bunjes 1914-98; ©1982 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

The Epistle

Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For 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. ¹⁶Let 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.

⁷In 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. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

Gradual Hymn

“Were You There”

♪ 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?

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

♪ Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

♪ Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 456 -Text & Tune: African American Spiritual, 19th cent.;
Setting: C. Winfred Douglas 1867-1944; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Nicene Creed

Reproaches

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you?
Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have

delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

Offering

The Hymn

“The Old Rugged Cross”

♪ On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, The emblem of suff’ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

~So I’ll cherish the old rugged cross, Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, And exchange it some day for a crown.

♪ O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. ~So I’ll cherish...

♪ In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, A wondrous beauty I see;
For ‘twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me. ~So I’ll cherish...

♪ To the old rugged cross I will ever be true, Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He’ll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I’ll share. ~So I’ll cherish....

The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration, Hymn, 186 -Text & Tune: George Bennard 1873-1958; ©1913 George Bennard,
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As a reminder of our sin and the death of Jesus for us, the sanctuary lights are darkened.

Proclamation of the Word

“The Covenant Sealed”

Hebrews 4:14–16

Prayer of the Church

Each petition is concluded with the following:

Lord, in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Service of Darkness

Since we light candles for the celebration of each year of life at a birthday, we light 33 tea-light candles to symbolize the thirty-three years of life of our Lord and Savior. Tonight though, we extinguish them to signify our Lord's death. After each portion of Scripture that is read (indicated by a pause), please extinguish the light given to you by your number starting with the number 1.

Seven Words from the Cross

To signify the life being extinguished from Jesus on the cross, after the first six sayings, a wall candle is extinguished.

1 Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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

3 Near to 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 near, He said to His mother. "Woman, behold you son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

4 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!" which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? When some of them that were standing there heard it, they said, "He is calling for Elijah."

5 After this, Jesus knew that all things were accomplished. Fulfilling the Scripture He said, "I thirst." There was a jar of wine standing there. One of them ran immediately to get a sponge. He filled it with wine, put it on a reed, held it up to His mouth, and gave it to Him to drink. Others said, "Wait and see if Elijah will come and save Him."

6 When Jesus had received the wine, He cried with a loud voice, "It is finished!"

7 Then He said, "Father into Your hands I commend My Spirit." Having said this, He bowed His head and gave up His Spirit.

The Christ candle is removed from the sanctuary indicating the death and burial of Jesus.

When the Christ candle is removed then:

The Strepitus

The slamming of the book symbolizes the sealing of Jesus' tomb.

Then the congregation softly speaks:

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.

The Benediction is omitted.

Everyone leaves in silence!