

GOOD FRIDAY

Service of Tenebrae

March 29, 2024

6:30 p.m.

† PREPARATION †

The bells will not be rung on this day

Please stand and face the cross in the back of the church

Procession of the Cross

During the procession the following is said three times:

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

C: **O come, let us worship Him.**

The Collect of the Day

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Please sit

The Verse

(sung by the choir)

Isaiah 53:5

setting by Matthew Macheimer

He was wounded for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
Upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
And with His stripes we are healed.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

P: Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

C: **He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.**



P: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him.

C: He was despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

P: Like One from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.

C: Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted.

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” #451

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.

P: But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;

C: the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.

P: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;

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

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” #451

Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through 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.

P: He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth;

C: He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.

P: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death,

C: though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” #451

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.

P: After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied;

C: by His knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities.

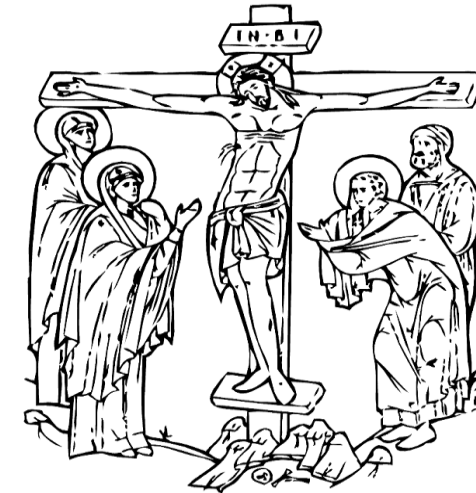
P: Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

C: For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Collect

P: Let us pray. Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.



The Epistle

Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5:7-9

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. 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.

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. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

The Collect

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Gospel

Matthew 27:24-44

P: A reading from St. Matthew, chapter 27.

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered Him to be crucified.

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before Him. ²⁸And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰And they spit on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the robe and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him.

³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry His cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when He tasted it, He would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat down and kept watch over Him there. ³⁷And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked Him, saying, ⁴²"He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him come down now from the cross, and

we will believe in Him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him. For He said, 'I am the Son of God.' " ⁴⁴And the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him in the same way.

A period of silence.

The Last Seven Words of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Hymn

Upon the Cross Extended

#453

Stanza 1-4

- 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.
- 2 Come, see these things and ponder,
Your soul will fill with wonder
As blood streams from each pore.
Through grief beyond all knowing
From His great heart came flowing
Sighs welling from its deepest core.
- 3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You?
Who has so sore abused You
And caused You all Your woe?
We all must make confession
Of sin and dire transgression
While You no ways of evil know.
- 4 I caused Your grief and sighing
By evils multiplying
As countless as the sands.
I caused the woes unnumbered
With which Your soul is cumbered,
Your sorrows raised by wicked hands.

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:33–34

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.*” And they cast lots to divide His garments.

The first candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes

#447

Stanza 1-3

- 1 Jesus, in Your dying woes,
Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes:
Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 2 Savior, for our pardon sue
When our sins Your pangs renew,
For we know not what we do:
Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 3 Oh, may we, who mercy need,
Be like You in heart and deed,
When with wrong our spirits bleed:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

The Collect

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your sinlessness You never needed forgiveness and yet You forgave those who sinned against You without cause. Give us grace and courage to forgive those who wrong us, that we may so draw attention to Your forgiving glory on the cross.

☩ Amen.



THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39–43

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.*”

The second candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes

#447

Stanza 4-6

- 4 Jesus, pitying the sighs
Of the thief, who near You dies,
Promising him paradise:
Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 5 May we in our guilt and shame
Still Your love and mercy claim,
Calling humbly on Your name:
Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 6 May our hearts to You incline
And their thoughts Your cross entwine.
Cheer our souls with hope divine:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:25-27

²⁵but standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “*Woman, behold, your Son!*” ²⁷Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

The third candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes

#447

Stanza 7-9

7 Jesus, loving to the end
Her whose heart Your sorrows rend,
And Your dearest human friend:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

8 May we in Your sorrows share,
For Your sake all peril dare,
And enjoy Your tender care:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

9 May we all Your loved ones be,
All one holy family,
Loving, since Your love we see:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE FOURTH WORD

Matthew 27:45-47

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And 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?” ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

The fourth candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes
Stanza 10-12

#447

10 Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,
With our evil left alone,
While no light from heav’n is shown:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

11 When we seem in vain to pray
And our hope seems far away,
In the darkness be our stay:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

12 Though no Father seem to hear,
Though no light our spirits cheer,
May we know that God is near:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28-29

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “*I thirst.*” ²⁹A 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.

The fifth candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes
Stanza 13-15

#447

13 Jesus, in Your thirst and pain,
While Your wounds Your lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

14 Thirst for us in mercy still;
All Your holy work fulfill;
Satisfy Your loving will:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

15 May we thirst Your love to know.
Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:29-30

²⁹A 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. ³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “*It is finished.*” . . .

The sixth candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes
Stanza 16-18

#447

16 Jesus, all our ransom paid,
All Your Father’s will obeyed;
By Your suff’rings perfect made:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

17 Save us in our soul's distress;
Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

18 Brighten all our heav'nward way
With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

THE SEVENTH WORD

Luke 23:44-46

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "*Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!*" And having said this He breathed His last.

The seventh candle is extinguished

Hymn

Jesus, In Your Dying Woes
Stanza 19-21

#447

19 Jesus, all Your labor vast,
All Your woe and conflict past,
Yielding up Your soul at last:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

20 When the death shades round us low'r,
Guard us from the tempter's pow'r,
Keep us in that trial hour:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

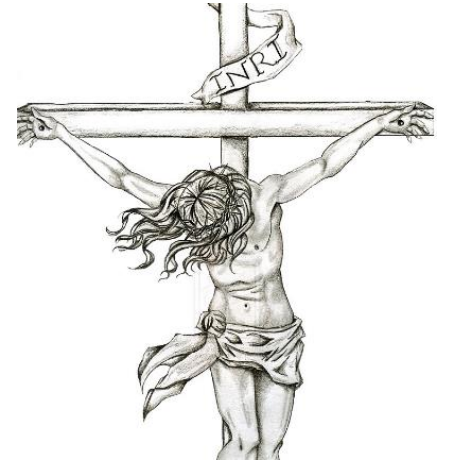
21 May Your life and death supply
Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high:
Hear us, holy Jesus.

Reading

Matthew 27:51-54

L A reading from St. Matthew, the 27th chapter:

⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with Him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"



The Bidding Prayer (*remain seated*)

P: Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere and the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those who adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially our President; the Congress of the United

States; our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Finally, let us pray for all things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,

The Reproaches

The following Reproaches are the words of the Lord against His people, the Church, to which the congregation replies with a plea for mercy.



P: O my people, what have I done to you? Oh, where have I grieved you? Answer Me! Because I brought you forth from the land of Egypt, you prepared a cross for your Savior.

C: Holy and almighty One; Holy and immortal One, have mercy on us.

P: Because I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna, and brought you into a land exceeding good, you prepared a cross for your Savior.

C: Holy and almighty One; Holy and immortal One, have mercy on us.

P: I indeed did plant you, O My vineyard, with goodly clusters, and you have become exceedingly bitter unto Me; for vinegar, mingled with gall, you did give Me when thirsty, you have pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

C: Holy and almighty One; Holy and immortal One, have mercy on us.

The Concluding Collect

P: Let us pray. We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Agnus Dei
(sung by the choir)

Behold the Lamb of God
John A. Behnke

Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

Please stand

The Adoration of Christ



P: We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.

**C: For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.**

P: God be merciful to us and | bless us,*
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy up- | on us.

**C: We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.**

P: For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.

Recession of the Candle and Veneration of the Cross

During the recession the following is spoken three times:

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

C: O come, let us worship Him.



*The Good Friday Worship concludes as worshippers
leave the church **in silence** or remain for prayer and meditation.*

The Participants

The Pastor
The Organist
The Choir

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Nuckols
Mr. Stephen P. Johnson
Festival Choir

Easter Festival Services:

Sunday, March 31

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Easter Festival Divine Service with Communion

Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church, School and Childcare

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

www.ofls.org

Rev. Dr. Mark Nuckols, Pastor Church (414) 282-8220

Mr. Bob Cahill, Principal School (414) 282-7500

Mrs. Amanda McGraw Childcare (414) 282-9057

Mrs. Michelle Sroka
Childcare Co-Directors

Organists: *Sunday*-Stephen Johnson sjohnson@ourfatherslutheran.org
Thursday-Ben Culli