

Good Friday



("The Crucifixion" Matthias Grunewald 1470-1528)

"He said, 'It is finished.'"

John 19:30b

Good Friday

2 April A+D 2021

Good Friday

The earliest name for this day is "Pascha" and refers to the Jewish Passover. Other names were, "Day of the Lord's Passion," "Day of the Absolution," and "Day of the Cross." The term "Good Friday" is more of an English expression and seeks to reflect the joy of completed redemption, rather than funeral gloom. Regardless of the name, this day has always been a day of the greatest solemnity and most devoted religious observance. The services on this day are stripped of festivity. The hymns of Lutheranism focus less on the gore and detailed sufferings of Christ and present more of a solemn rejoicing that "by His stripes we are healed." The Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Holy Week are the highest days for the Christian. This is our faith, this is our preaching, this is our confession. Jesus Christ crucified and risen for our salvation.

The Office of Tenebrae (which means darkness or shadows) is a Holy Week service which dates back to the seventh or eighth century. This service makes symbolic use of darkness and silence to impress upon the hearts and minds of the worshippers the awful consequence of sin and the magnitude of the Savior's sacrifice. While symbolism over the years has varied slightly from place to place, tonight we will consider the symbolism of the following:

1. The somber mood symbolizes our penitent grief and mourning for our sins which caused our Lord's great suffering.
2. The dim lighting symbolizes the three hours of darkness which overshadowed the crucifixion.
3. The gradual extinguishing of the candles symbolizes the denial, abandonment and forsaking of Christ. Denial and abandonment out of fear from of the twelve disciples. Forsakenness out of divine wrath from the Father.
4. The sudden closing of the book symbolizes the sealing of the tomb, the clear sign that the meaning of the cross was fulfilled, "It is finished."
5. The Christ candle's exit symbolizes our Lord's death and its return symbolizes our Lord's conquering of death through the resurrection.

In keeping with the solemnity of the office; there is no postlude music. Everyone enters and leaves the church in complete silence.

Service Notes: Prelude and offering music is provided by Mike Rollins, guitar. The Kantorei is composed of Julia and Dale Burris, Diane Machmuller, and Pastor Tews, accompanied by J T Waggoner, guitar. Pastor Frank is the organist.

The Office of Tenebrae

Prelude: "Allegretto" F. Carulli & "Prelude in E minor" Aaron Shearer

During the singing of the reproaches, please stand for the procession of the cross, symbolic of Christ's presence among us.

The Reproaches of Christ

Hymn: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434 st. 1

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

The Reproaches of Christ

Hymn: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434 st. 2

- 2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

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The Reproaches of Christ

Hymn: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434 st. 3

- 3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

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Sentences and Collects:

- P** He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
C **And by His stripes we are healed.**
P Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, 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; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**
P We all, like sheep, have gone astray;
C **And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**
P Almighty and most merciful God, give us grace so to contemplate the Passion of our Lord that we may find in it the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

Kantorei: "Deep Were His Wounds"

Text: William Johnson; Tune: Leland B Sateren; Arr. Ron Besemer

- 1 *Deep were his wounds, and red, On cruel Calvary,
As on the cross he bled In bitter agony.
But they whom sin has wounded sore Find healing in the wounds he bore.*
- 2 *He suffered shame and scorn And wretched, dire disgrace;
Forsaken and forlorn, He hung there in our place.
But all who would from sin be free Look to his cross for victory.*
- 3 *Jesus, my great High Priest, Offered his blood and died.
My guilty conscience seeks No sacrifice beside.
His pow'rful blood did once atone, And now it pleads before the throne.*
- 4 *His life, his all, he gave When he was crucified;
Our burdened souls to save, What fearful death he died!
But each of us, though dead in sin, Through him eternal life may win.*

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

429 We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died

LSB 429

- 1 We sing the praise of Him who died,
Of Him who died upon the cross.
The sinner's hope let all deride;
For this we count the world but loss.
- 2 Inscribed upon the cross we see
In shining letters, "God is love."
He bears our sins upon the tree;
He brings us mercy from above.
- 3 The cross! It takes our guilt away;
It holds the fainting spirit up;
It cheers with hope the gloomy day
And sweetens ev'ry bitter cup.
- 4 It makes the coward spirit brave
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;
It takes the terror from the grave
And gilds the bed of death with light;
- 5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heav'n above.
- 6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace
By bitter grief and anguish sore,
Be praise from all the ransomed race
Forever and forevermore.

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Sermon: "Finished" ~ John 19:28-30

Offering: Passion Chorale "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" arr. Bobby Fisher

Service of Darkness

I. The Betrayal and Arrest of Christ

John 18:1–11

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440 sts. 1–2, 5–6

- 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 suffering, pain, and death
That I may not perish.
- 2 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.
- 5 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!
- 6 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.

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II. The Denial of Christ

John 18:12–27

439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

LSB 439 sts. 1–5, 15

- 1 O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?
- 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.
- 3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;

Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.

4 What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.

5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.

15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

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III. The Trial of Christ

John 18:28–40

449 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

LSB 449 (Kantorei Stanza 3)

1 O sacred Head, now wounded,
 With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
 With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory,
 What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
 I joy to call Thee mine.

2 What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered
 Was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression,
 But Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!
 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor,
 And grant to me Thy grace.

3 *What language shall I borrow
 To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow,
 Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever!
 And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
 Outlive my love for Thee.*

4 Be Thou my consolation,
 My shield, when I must die;
Remind me of Thy passion
 When my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,
 Upon Thy cross shall dwell,
My heart by faith enfold Thee.
 Who dieth thus dies well.

IV. The Sentencing of Christ to Death

John 19:1–16a

448 O Darkest Woe

LSB 448 sts. 1–3, 6–7

- 1 O darkest woe!
Ye tears, forth flow!
Has earth so sad a wonder?
God the Father's only Son
Now is buried yonder.
- 2 O sorrow dread!
Our God is dead,
Upon the cross extended.
There His love enlivened us
As His life was ended.
- 3 O child of woe:
Who struck the blow
That killed our gracious Master?
"It was I," thy conscience cries,
"I have wrought disaster!"
- 6 O Virgin's Son,
What Thou hast won
Is far beyond all telling:
How our God, detested, died,
Hell and devil felling.
- 7 O Jesus Christ,
Who sacrificed
Thy life for lifeless mortals:
Be my life in death and bring
Me to heaven's portals!

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V. The Crucifixion of Christ

John 19:16b–24

453 Upon the Cross Extended

LSB 453 sts. 1, 4–6

- 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.
- 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.

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.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
Bind me to You forever,
 I am no longer mine.
To You I gladly tender
All that my life can render
 And all I have to You resign.

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Stand

VI. The Death of Christ

John 19:25–30

Kantorei: O Perfect Life of Love

LSB 452 sts. 1–5

1 *O perfect life of love!
 All, all, is finished now,
All that He left His throne above
 To do for us below.*

2 *No work is left undone
 Of all the Father willed;
His toil, His sorrows, one by one,
 The Scriptures have fulfilled.*

3 *No pain that we can share
 But He has felt its smart;
All forms of human grief and care
 Have pierced that tender heart.*

4 *And on His thorn-crowned head
 And on His sinless soul
Our sins in all their guilt were laid
 That He might make us whole.*

5 *In perfect love He dies;
 For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
 I cling by faith to Thee.*

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VII. The Burial of Christ

John 19:31–42

Kantorei: Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

LSB 708 st. 3

3 *Lord, let at last Thine angels come,
To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home,
 That I may die unfearing;
And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in peaceful sleep
 Until Thy reappearing.
And then from death awaken me,
That these mine eyes with joy may see,*

*O Son of God, Thy glorious face,
My Savior and my fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise Thee without end.*

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Exit of the Paschal Candle

Bidding Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Return of the Paschal Candle

Silent Prayer

The congregation leaves in silence.

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Please join us for worship:

Easter Worship, Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil, Saturday at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Worship, Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at 9:30 p.m.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

St. Paul's Lutheran Early Childhood Center

Two Locations

One Word

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