

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

APRIL 2, 2021 6:30 & 8:00 PM

AS WE GATHER

Good Friday is a time of somber reflection as we approach the mystery of the cross. But the austerity of the Good Friday liturgy should not obscure the fact that this is a death we celebrate because of the life and forgiveness that flow from the cross for us and for our salvation. Because Good Friday is not an isolated event or day but part of God's planned revelation of His love, we listen to the entire story of God's work of salvation and deliverance. The message of the cross is the message of the Scriptures, planned by God, proclaimed by the prophets, and fulfilled in Christ. This liturgy continues what was begun on Holy Thursday and will not be complete until Easter Sunday adds its own message of hope and triumph.

PRELUDE:

6:30 pm Violin: Caroline Maichel

8:00 pm The Blood of Jesus Solo: Mike Arrigo

WELCOME

(Please Stand)

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

(Please face the processional cross, turning as it passes by.)

P Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C Lord, have mercy.

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C Lord, have mercy.

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C Lord, have mercy.

P Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,
C **who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Dear Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to reverently behold the agony of your rejection, the pain of your condemnation, and the horror of your crucifixion.
- C** **Bring us to the places you walked and to the people you encountered on that Friday so long ago.**
- P** Stay with us, Lord, as we witness your suffering and listen to your last words of love.
- C** **As we approach Calvary let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against your holy commandments.**
- P** Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking, and doing.
- C** **We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.**
- P** We have passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.
- C** **O God, we have tried to hide from you and from one another.**
- P** We can only say, "For the sake of Jesus, God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

(A moment of silent reflection)

- P** By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. O God, make your face shine upon us.
- A** **Only then will we be saved!**

HYMN OF CONFESSION: CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE

LSB 611 sts. 1, 4



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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 Be Seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 52 and 53.

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 they 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 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.

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 sin,
 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

(Please Stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY: SING, MY TONGUE, THE GLORIOUS BATTLE LSB 454



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; Sing the end - ing
 2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness Of the ap - point - ed
 3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, He went forth from
 4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, Be for all the
 Δ 5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry; To the Fa - ther



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the tro - phy,
 time was come, He, the Word, was born of wom - an,
 Naz - a - reth, Des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,
 no - blest tree; None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,
 and the Son, To the e - ter - nal Spir - it hon - or



Sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; Tell how Christ, the
 Left for us His Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of
 Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He
 None in fruit thine e - qual be; Sym - bol of the
 Now and ev - er - more be done; Praise and glo - ry



world's re - deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.
 true o - be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.
 hum - bly yield - ed On the cross His dy - ing breath.
 world's re - demp - tion, For the weight that hung on thee!
 in the high - est While the time - less a - ges run.

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SERMON

(Please Stand)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray to the Lord, in the words of Isaiah the prophet. O Lord, Jesus Christ, surely You have borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed You stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- C** **Lord, we give You heartfelt thanks for knowing our griefs and sorrows.**
- P** You were wounded for our transgressions; You were crushed for our iniquities; upon You was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with Your stripes we are healed.
- C** **Lord, we ask that You would continually forgive our sins.**
- P** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to our own way; and the Lord has laid on You the iniquity of us all.
- C** **Lord, when we stray from Your Word of grace and wisdom, restore us to Your eternal fold.**
- P** You were oppressed, and You were afflicted, yet You opened not Your mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so You opened not Your mouth.
- C** **Lord, we praise You for being the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **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.**

(Please Be Seated)

OFFERTORY: CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

Psalm 51:10–12

☒ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

OFFERING

Due to COVID-19 we will not be passing an offering plate. Please place gifts and offerings in the wooden box in the narthex. You can also give online as a one-time gift or reoccurring donation.

Simply click "Online Giving" at www.ascensionstl.com.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

✠ TENEBRAE – CHRIST'S WORDS FROM THE CROSS ✠

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:32–38

“Father, Forgive Them”

HYMN: GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE

LSB 436 sts. 1–2



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Text and tune: Public domain

(The first candle is extinguished)

THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39–43

“Today You will be with Me...”

HYMN: O DEAREST JESUS, WHAT LAW HAST THOU BROKEN

LSB 439 sts. 1–3



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.

Text and tune: Public domain

(The second candle is extinguished)

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:23–27

“Woman, Behold Your Son”

HYMN: O DEAREST JESUS, WHAT LAW HAST THOU BROKEN

LSB 439 sts. 4–5



4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants
Man for - feit - ed his life and is ac -



owe Him, Who would not know Him.
quit - ted; God is com - mit - ted.

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(The third candle is extinguished)

THE FOURTH WORD

“My God, My God...”

Mathew 27:45–49

HYMN: MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN

LSB 430 sts. 1–3



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



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



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,



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.

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(The fourth candle is extinguished)

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28-29

"I Thirst"

HYMN: STRICKEN, SMITEN, AND AFFLICTED

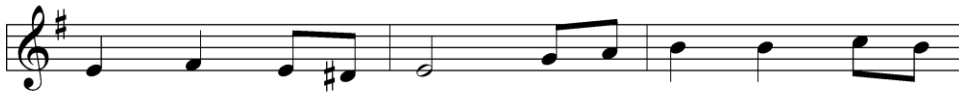
LSB 451 sts. 1-2



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.

Tune and text: Public domain

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

THE SIXTH WORD
"It Is Finished"

John 19:30

HYMN: STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED

LSB 451 sts. 3-4



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.

Tune and text: Public domain

(The sixth candle is extinguished)

THE SEVENTH WORD

Luke 23:44-49

“Father, Into Your Hands...”

HYMN: WERE YOU THERE

LSB 456

While the hymn is being sung, the sanctuary lights are fully dimmed and the flame of the Christ Candle is removed signifying Christ's death. It is then returned in anticipation of His resurrection.



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you
3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you
4 Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb? Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh ...
there when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh ...
there when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh ...
there when God raised Him from the tomb? Oh ...



Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

Tune and text: Public domain

STREPTICUS

After the reading of John 3:16, a loud sound is heard,
signifying the closing of Christ's tomb.

Worshippers may remain for silent meditation.
Please observe silence while departing.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Our worship continues:

Easter Service April 4, 2021

6:30 am Sunrise Worship without Communion

Easter Communion Services April 4, 2021

8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:00 am

REV. MATTHEW CLARK
Pastor

REV. MATTHEW KOBS
Assistant Pastor

GABE MAICHEL
Director of Music



5:00 pm Saturdays & 8:15 am Sundays (Traditional Music)

11:00 am Sundays (Contemporary Music)

9:45 am Sundays (Sunday School and Bible Class)

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