

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Friday – 1:00 p.m.

March 29th, 2024

GOOD FRIDAY

REAL LIFE AFTER GOOD FRIDAY

AS WE GATHER

On the day the sun stopped shining (Luke 23:45), Jesus Christ offered His life in our place upon the cross. The darkness of our sinful souls was placed upon the sinless Son of God. Ridden with the sins of the whole world, Jesus exchanged places with us. He died our death so that we may know His life. He who knew no sin became sin for us. He cried “Eloi!” so that we could cry “Abba!” He was forsaken so that we can be embraced in the Father’s love. As we come to the cross during our Good Friday service, may we be filled with the riches of grace, shown to us by the One who would go to any lengths to make us His own and give us real life for all eternity.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 53:5*

P: For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin,

C: **so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.**

P: He was wounded for our transgressions;

C: **He was crushed for our iniquities;**

P: upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C: **and with His stripes we are healed.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Lord our God, You took upon Your shoulders the weight of fallen humanity, becoming the sin offering for us so that we are made righteous in Your sight. Hear us as we bow before Your cross and lay our sins at Your feet.

In silent prayer, we bring the burdens of our sins to Jesus.

P: Gracious Father,

C: **have mercy upon us. We are undeserving of Your love.**

P: Loving Lord Jesus,

C: **take our sins from us. Show us the depths of Your love, found only in the cross.**

P: Renewing Holy Spirit,

C: **Guide us and lead us. Enable us by faith to cling to the grace that alone can save. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His great mercy has given His Son to die for you and, for His sake, He forgives you all your sins. Jesus bore our sins in His body on the cross so that we may die to sin and live in His righteousness. By His wounds, you have been healed. As a called and ordained servant of our crucified Savior, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 38:1–4, 18, 22; antiphon: Isaiah 53:5*

P: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;

C: **upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.**

P: O LORD, rebuke me not in Your anger,

C: **nor discipline me in Your wrath!**

P: For Your arrows have sunk into me,

C: **and Your hand has come down on me.**

P: There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation;

C: **there is no health in my bones because of my sin.**

P: For my iniquities have gone over my head;

C: **like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.**

P: I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.

C: **Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!**

P: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;

C: **upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.**

KYRIE

P: Suffering Savior,

C: **have mercy upon us.**

P: Crucified Christ,

C: **have mercy upon us.**

P: Merciful Messiah,

C: **grant us Your peace.**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor upon us, Your people,

C: **with whom Your Son exchanged places at the cross so we may forever know real life, love, and forgiveness;**

P: 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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:13–53:12

(The Messiah “was numbered with the transgressors” and “bore the sin of many.”)

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a; Psalm 111:9a*

P: [Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

C: **Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.**

P: He sent redemption to His people;

C: **He has commanded His covenant forever.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9

(Jesus, our High Priest, suffered for our salvation.)

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Isaiah 53:4*

P: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

C: **yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 19:17–30

(The crucifixion of Jesus)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

LSB 454

SERMON & TEXT

“Pounding Nails”

John 19:17-30

APOSTLES’ CREED

Back inside cover of hymnal

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, You gather us together at the foot of Your Son’s cross that we may join with the eyewitnesses of His death and behold His all-sufficient sacrifice for our redemption.

C: **Help us to know the real life that comes to us because of the wonderful exchange Jesus offered to us at the cross.**

P: Lead us to see that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary.

C: **He was forsaken by You, dear Father, so that we might never be forsaken. He died so that we may live.**

- P: Lord Jesus, grant on this Friday we call “good” that the promises of Your Word may be received by us all with a living faith.
- C: **Encourage our hearts and minds as we trust that all You accomplished at Calvary was done for our salvation.**
- P: Holy Spirit, You unite us by Baptism to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Guide us by Your grace to know the power of sharing in His death so that, with Him, we may partake in His resurrection.
- C: **All glory, honor, and praise be to You, O God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—now and forever. Amen.**

✠ THE SEVEN LAST WORDS ✠

We reflect on the seven last words that Jesus spoke from the cross.

- FIRST WORD** *Luke 23:33–34* (“Father, forgive them . . .”)
HYMN *O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken* *LSB 439 Sts. 1-3*
- SECOND WORD** *Luke 23:39–43* (“Today you will be with Me in paradise.”)
HYMN *O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken* *LSB 439 Sts. 4-5*
- THIRD WORD** *John 19:25–27* (“Behold your son. . . . Behold your mother.”)
HYMN *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted* *LSB 451 Sts. 1-2*
- FOURTH WORD** *Matthew 27:45–46* (“My God, My God . . .”)
HYMN *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted* *LSB 451 Sts. 3-4*
- FIFTH WORD** *John 19:28* (“I thirst.”)
HYMN *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* *LSB 449 Sts. 1-3*
- SIXTH WORD** *John 19:30* (“It is finished.”)
HYMN *Were You There* *LSB 456 Sts. 1-3*
- SEVENTH WORD** *Luke 23:46* (“Father, into Your hands . . .”)

We depart in silent confidence, trusting that the light of Easter will soon scatter the darkness of Good Friday.

Quotation from Martin Luther in *Select Works of Martin Luther*, vol. 4, trans. Henry Cole (London: Simpkin and Marshall, 1826), 369.

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