

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Good Friday Worship
“The Seven Last Words”
March 29, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to our worship service. If you are visiting with us, please sign our guest book in the narthex. We are glad you are here, and we hope to see you again soon!

Our service is streamed LIVE on our Facebook page for those unable to be with us.

Our Nursery area is downstairs, but please note it is not staffed. If you are visiting with us today, an usher will direct you.

INTRODUCTION

*Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ’s death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. **We depart silently**, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.*

Good Friday continues our journey from Maundy Thursday in silence.

All stand as able; the processional cross is carried into the nave veiled in black.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The minister begins.

On this sacred night, let us confess our sin before God.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

The minister begins; the assembly reads the bold print responsively.

Out of the depths I cry to you;
O Lord God, hear me calling.

Incline your ear to my distress
in spite of my rebelling.

**Do not regard my sinful deeds.
Send me the grace my spirit needs.
Without it I am nothing. Amen**

The minister announces God's forgiveness.

In God alone we hope,
and not in our own merit.
Our hope is in the Lord,
who sends redemption
through the cross of Christ.
In the name of the Father, † the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The mercy and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The minister leads the prayer of the day; the assembly responds in bold print.

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

The assembly is seated.

The minister and the acolyte take their places at the altar. The lights are moderately dimmed during this portion of the service.

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

During the readings, we will be singing verses from “Jesus in Thy Dying Woes” (LBW#112) throughout the service. Please remain seated for the readings and vesicles. The minister begins.

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:33-34

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.’ And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

The first candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the First Word.

The minister begins; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 2 *(All sing)*

Savior, for our pardon sue
when our sins thy pangs renew,
for we know not what we do:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39-43

We continue with the second reading.

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, ‘Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!’ ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, ‘Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.’ ⁴²Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when

you come into your kingdom.’ ⁴³He replied, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’

The second candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Second Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.
You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 4 (All sing)

Jesus, pitying the sighs
of the thief, who near thee dies,
promising him paradise:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:25-27

We continue with the third reading.

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near 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 beside her, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The third candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Third Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.
You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 7 (All sing)

Jesus, loving to the end
her whose heart thy sorrows rend,
and thy dearest human friend:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE FOURTH WORD

Mark 15:33-34

We continue with the fourth reading.

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

The fourth candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Fourth Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 10 (All sing)

Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,
with our evil left alone,
while no light from heav'n is shown:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28

We continue with the fifth reading.

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), 'I am thirsty.'

The fifth candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Fifth Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 13 (All sing)

Jesus, in thy thirst and pain,
while thy wounds thy lifeblood drain,
thirsting more our love to gain:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:29-30

We continue with the sixth reading.

²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The sixth candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Sixth Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes” – vs 16 (All sing)

Jesus, all our ransom paid,
all thy Father’s will obeyed;
by thy suff’rings perfect made:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE SEVENTH WORD

Luke 23:46

We continue with the seventh reading.

⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

The seventh candle is extinguished followed by silent meditation on the Seventh Word.

The minister continues; the assembly reads the bold print.

Lord Jesus, you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

Hymn: "Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes" – vs 19 & 21 (All sing)

Jesus, all thy labor vast,
all thy woe and conflict past;
yielding up thy soul at last:
hear us, holy Jesus.

May thy life and death supply
grace to live and grace to die,
grace to reach the home on high:
hear us, holy Jesus.

THE FINAL SCRIPTURE

Matthew 27:51

The minister continues.

⁵¹At that moment, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split.

We pause in silent meditation on what Christ has done for us.

*The hymn of the day follows; please stand as you are able.
The hymn will be sung acapella by all.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Were You There”

- 1 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?
- 2 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?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
- 5 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?

Please remain standing for the response as you are able.

THE RESPONSE

The assembly reads the bold print. The minister begins.

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

But he was wounded for our transgressions and he was bruised for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole.

All we like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all.

He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, although he had done no violence nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Please be seated.

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs" - Karl Heinrich Graun
Sanctuary Choir

RESPONSIVE PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

The minister leads the prayer; the assembly reads the bold print. Please kneel or sit as you are able.

Lord God, you have given us everything.
You have not held anything back.

Help us in a like manner to give of ourselves.

Sanctify us Christ's name.

Bless us and all that we think, feel, say, and do that we, like Jesus, may be a blessing to others.

We ask this in the holy name of Jesus, who said that when we pray, we should say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A solitary bell is rung for each of the seven petitions as we pray in unison.

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 minister continues; the assembly responds in the bold print.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your cross you have redeemed the world.

The closing hymn is sung. Please stand as you are able.

CLOSING HYMN: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (ELW#351)

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

During the final hymn, the acolyte, crucifer and minister depart.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HYMN, ALL DEPART IN SILENCE

All tithes and offerings this evening may be placed in the offering plate(s) at the rear of the sanctuary as you depart in silence.

***WE GATHER AGAIN ON EASTER MORNING AT 9:30 AM
TO CELEBRATE OUR RISEN LORD!***

