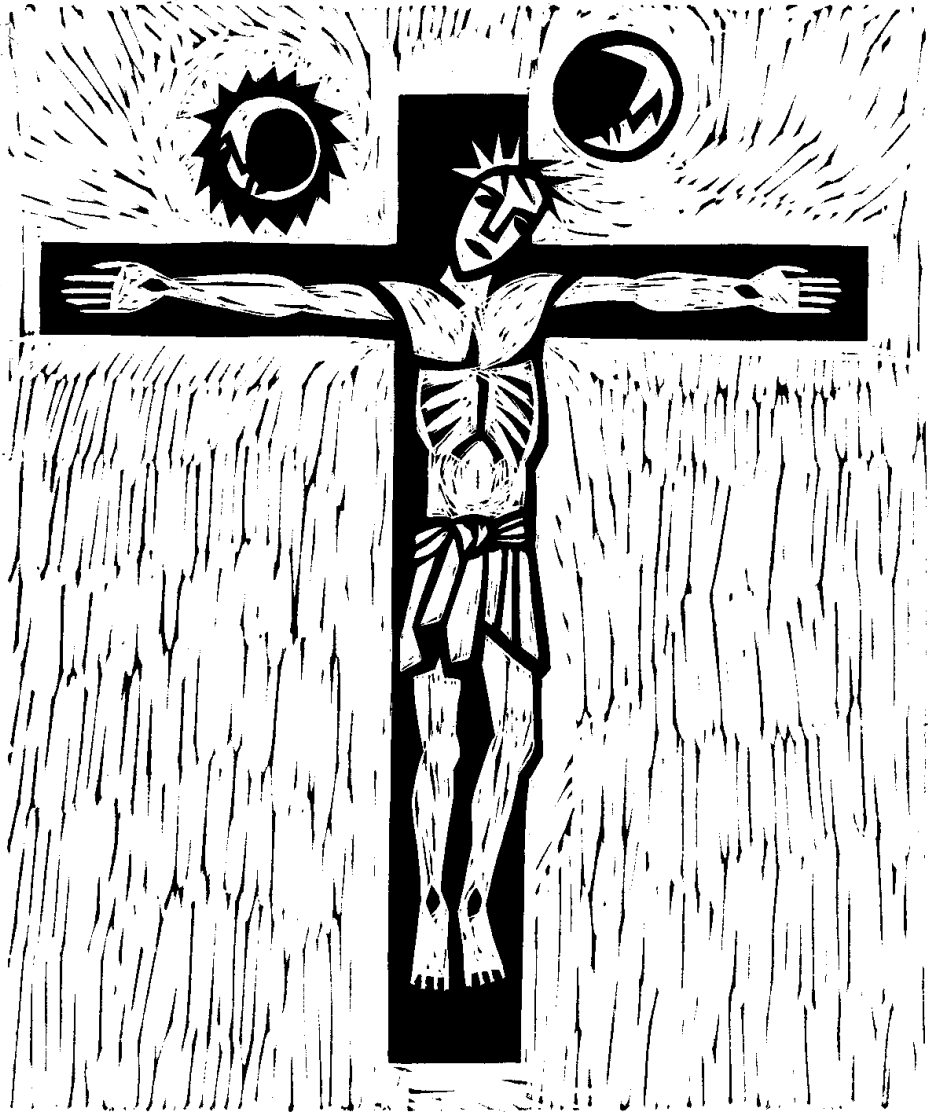
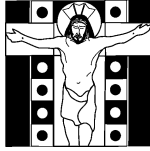


# BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Service of Tenebrae  
Good Friday  
March 29, 2024

## ABOUT THIS EVENING'S SERVICE



*Tonight we continue our service of the Three Holy Days.*

The word Tenebrae means “darkness” and refers to the darkness which covered the earth at the time of Christ’s crucifixion. The extinguishing of candles, gradually casting the church into complete darkness, has been placed within the reading of the Passion according to John, the ancient gospel narrative for the day and signifies the hatred, resentment, and falling away of the world against its Savior and his love, mercy, and faithfulness.

The central candle, which is not extinguished, symbolizes the presence of the Savior in our midst. This central candle is removed to symbolize the death of Jesus and will return on Easter morning as the paschal candle.

The Adoration of the Cross is an ancient devotion of the Christian Church, used during Holy Week to impress upon the minds and hearts of believers the awful consequence of sin and the magnitude of the Savior’s sacrifice on the cross.

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS



*The ministers enter in silence.*

*We stand.*

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family,  
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed  
and given over to the hands of sinners to suffer death on the cross.  
We most definitely need your mercy this night.

**C Amen.**

*We sit.*



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;  
 2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,  
 4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,



let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.  
 bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
 but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.  
 nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish  
 make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,  
 For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;  
 May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.  
 how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.  
 this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
 that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
 Music: JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN, Melchior Vulpus, 1570–1615

<sup>13</sup>See, my servant shall prosper;  
he shall be exalted and lifted up,  
and shall be very high.

<sup>14</sup>Just as there were many who were astonished at him  
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of mortals—

<sup>15</sup>so he shall startle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which had not been told them they shall see,  
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

<sup>53:1</sup>Who has believed what we have heard?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>For 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,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

<sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected by others;  
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;  
and as one from whom others hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our infirmities  
and carried our diseases;  
yet we accounted him stricken,  
struck down by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions,  
crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,  
and by his bruises we are healed.

<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have all turned to our own way,  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By a perversion of justice he was taken away.  
Who could have imagined his future?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.

<sup>9</sup>They made his grave with the wicked  
and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.  
When you make his life an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

<sup>11</sup>Out of his anguish he shall see light;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.  
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;  
because he poured out himself to death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 22:1 -15** (*Lead by the Choir*)

Aaron D. Miller

ANTIPHON: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

L My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me\*  
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of | my distress?

C **O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you | do not answer;\*  
by night as well, but I | find no rest.**

L Yet you are the | Holy One,\*  
enthroned upon the prais- | es of Israel.

C **Our ancestors put their | trust in you;\*  
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.**

L They cried out to you and | were delivered;\*  
they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.

C **But as for me, I am a worm | and not human,\*  
scorned by all and despised | by the people.**

ANTIPHON

L All who see me laugh | me to scorn;\*  
they curl their lips and wag | their heads, saying,

C **"He trusted in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;\*  
let him rescue him, if he de- | lights in him."**

L Yet you are he who took me out | of the womb,\*  
and kept me safe upon my | mother's breast.  
C **I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;\***  
**you were my God when I was still in my | mother's womb.**

ANTIPHON

L Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,\*  
and there is | none to help.  
C **Many young bulls en- | circle me;\***  
**strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.**  
L They open wide their | jaws at me,\*  
like a ravening and a | roaring lion.  
C **I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;\***  
**my heart within my breast is | melting wax.**  
L My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;\*  
and you have laid me in the dust | of the grave.  
C **Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers cir- | cle around me;\***  
**they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count | all my bones.**  
L They stare and gloat | over me;\*  
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots | for my clothing.  
C **Be not far a- | way, O LORD;\***  
**you are my strength; hast- | en to help me.**

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 10:16–25

Debbie Garrison

[After the Holy Spirit says,] <sup>16</sup>“This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:  
I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them on their minds,”

<sup>17</sup>he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

<sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,  
<sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),  
<sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in full  
assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed  
with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has  
promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not  
neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as  
you see the Day approaching.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

# + THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN +

*We stand.*

**Hymn** O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

**ELW #351**



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weigh'd 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.

*We sit as the Passion is read; silence for reflection follows the reading.  
Candles are extinguished following each reading to symbolize the approaching darkness of Christ's death.*

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

## **I. John 18:1-14**

Pastor Jeff Mikyska

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" <sup>5</sup>They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup>Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

<sup>12</sup>So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup>First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

*(silence for reflection)*

## **II. John 18:15-27**

Andrea Gustafson

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." <sup>18</sup>Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask



me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" <sup>24</sup>Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." <sup>26</sup>One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" <sup>27</sup>Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

*(silence for reflection)*

### Hymn: Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347



1 Go to dark Geth-se-m-a-ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;



your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit-ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!



turn not from his griefs a-way; learn from Je-sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf-f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

### III. John 18:28-40

Nan Phillips

<sup>28</sup>Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

<sup>33</sup>Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you

*(Reading continues on the next page.)*

about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." <sup>38</sup>Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him." <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" <sup>40</sup>They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

*(silence for reflection)*



#### IV. John 19:1-16

Steve Mickelson

<sup>1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

<sup>8</sup>Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." <sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

<sup>13</sup>When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a

place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" <sup>15</sup>They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." <sup>16</sup>Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

*(silence for reflection)*



**Hymn:** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**ELW #803**

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

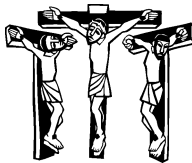
Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

<sup>17</sup> So they took Jesus and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup> There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup> Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." <sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. <sup>21</sup> Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" <sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." <sup>23</sup> When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. <sup>24</sup> So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots."

<sup>25</sup> And that is what the soldiers did.

*(silence for reflection)*

**VI. John 19:25b-30**

Dennis Schuett

<sup>25</sup> Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

<sup>28</sup> After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A 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. <sup>30</sup> When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*(silence for reflection)*

Ah, holy Jesus how have you offended,  
That mortal judgment has on you descended?  
By foes derided, by your own rejected,  
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, has undone you.  
‘Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you;  
I crucified you.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered  
The slave has sinned, and the Son has suffered;  
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded,  
God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was your incarnation,  
Your mortal sorrow and your life’s oblation,  
Your death of anguish and your bitter Passion,  
For my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay you,  
I do adore you, and will ever pray you,  
Think on your pity and your love unswerving,  
Not my deserving.

## **VII. John 19:31-42**

Pastor Jeff Mikyska

<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. <sup>32</sup>Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. <sup>35</sup>(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) <sup>36</sup>These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." <sup>37</sup>And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

<sup>38</sup>After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. <sup>39</sup>Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. <sup>40</sup>They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup>Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. <sup>42</sup>And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

*(silence for reflection)*



Lamb of God, pure and sin - less, once on the cross an of - f'ring,



pa - tient, low - ly, guilt - less, for - sak - en in your suf - f'ring:



from sin's grasp you have torn us, from gloom to hope have borne us.



1 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.  
 2 Grant us your mer - cy, O Je - sus.  
 3 Your peace be with us, O Je - sus. A - men.

### BIDDING PRAYER

L Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world, that our Lord God would keep it always on the true foundation, Jesus Christ..

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God,  
 you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ.  
 By your Holy Spirit guide the church  
 and gather it throughout the world.  
 Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name,  
 and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for Bishop Eaton and Bishop Curry, for Pastor Jeff, for Alan, Darlene, Ed, Emma, Mark, Sue, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God,  
your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.  
Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors,  
other ministers, and lay leaders.  
Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church,  
and help each of us in our various vocations  
to do faithfully the work to which you have called us.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for those preparing for baptism and confirmation.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church.  
Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism and  
confirmation.  
Give them new birth as your children,  
and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity.  
Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son.  
Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith,  
and keep us united in the fellowship of love.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God,  
long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses.  
Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own  
may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace  
all those who call out to you under different names.  
Bring an end to inter-religious strife,  
and make us more faithful witnesses  
of the love made known to us in your Son.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity  
so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.  
Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace  
in the world and in the lives of Christians,  
and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the creator of a magnificent universe.  
Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care  
and bring all things to fulfillment in you.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

*Silent prayer.*

P Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the champion of the poor and oppressed.  
In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority,  
so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom,  
and a share in the goodness of your creation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

L Let us pray for those in need.

*Silent prayer.*



P Almighty and eternal God,  
you give strength to the weary  
and new courage to those who have lost heart.  
Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,  
free those unjustly deprived of liberty,  
and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.  
Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble,  
that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

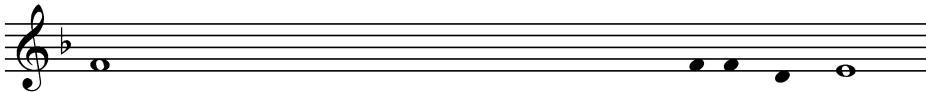
### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

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.**

*We sing this versicle three times.*

### **ADORATION OF THE CROSS**



☐ Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.



☑ Oh, come, let us wor-ship him.

*After a time of silence.*

P We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*The final candle is removed to symbolize Christ hidden in the tomb.  
Following this the Strepitus is heard, a harsh, loud noise  
indicating the closing of the tomb and the earthquake*



HYMN: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God

ELW #196

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,  
have mer - cy up-on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -  
est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up-on us!  
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,  
grant us thy peace! A - - - men

*We depart in silence.*

*Those who wish to remain in the sanctuary for a time of meditation and prayer are welcome to do so.*



### **LEADING WORSHIP TODAY**

The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister

Todd Toles, Worship Leader

Alan Spear, Organist

Sue Walz, Debbie Garrison, Dennis Schuett, Andrea Gustafson, Nan Phillips, Steve Mickelson, Readers

Fred Holch, A/V

Jon Habegger, Virden Von Qualen, Ushers

Kiera Piccony, Grace Rusev, Acolytes

**Easter Sunday, Festival Worship with Holy Communion**      9:00am in the Sanctuary

Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt      10:30am in the Fellowship Hall

### **Liturgy Credits**

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