

Notes To Assist Our Worship

Welcome – We are glad you chose to worship here today! We hope you discover the presence of God here and that together we can grow as friends of Christ and one another.

Standing and Sitting – If standing, sitting, and kneeling is too much for you, please remain seated (or standing at the communion rail) during those parts of the service. God is coming to you with His Gospel gifts. Our standing, sitting, and kneeling are simply our responses to God based on our health and ability.

Hearing Impaired – Do you have a hearing impairment that makes it difficult to enjoy worship as much as you would like? Faith has a “hearing loop” for those with hearing aids with that feature. We also offer hearing impaired FM receivers for those wishing to use one. Please see one of our sound technicians for assistance.

Our Hymnals – *LSB* refers to the *Lutheran Service Book*, which is the burgundy hard covered book in the pew rack. *WOV* refers to *With One Voice*, the smaller blue soft cover book.

GOOD FRIDAY

A Service of Darkness

April 18, 2025 + 12pm & 7pm

On this Good Friday, we gather for a “Tenebrae” service, meaning “darkness.” It’s a service that recalls the suffering and death of Jesus through Scripture and the gradual darkening of the Sanctuary. As the light fades, we remember how Christ, the Light of the World, was extinguished for our sake. Let us fix our eyes on the cross, where our Savior gave Himself in love to redeem us.

GATHER IN SILENCE

***RINGING OF THE BELL**

(Please rise at the ringing of the bell and turn to face the cross at the rear of the Sanctuary.)

***INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Most merciful God, we pray to you:

SOLO

O Divine Redeemer
(Jeanne Shiao, soloist)

Charles Gounod

Ah! Turn me not away, receive me, tho’ unworthy! Hear Thou my cry, Lord, my distress! Answer me from thy throne, haste Thee, Lord, to mine aid, Thy pity show in my deep anguish! Let not the sword of vengeance smite me, tho’ righteous thine anger, O Lord! Shield me in danger, O regard me! On Thee, Lord, alone will I call.

O, divine Redeemer! I pray Thee grant me pardon, and remember not my sins! Forgive me, O, divine Redeemer! I pray thee, grant me pardon, and remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Night gathers round my soul; fearful, I cry to Thee; Come, to mine aid, O Lord! Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help me! Hear my cry! Save me, Lord, in Thy mercy; hear my cry! Come and save me, O Lord!

FORGIVENESS

God does not turn from us. In His infinite love, He grants us pardon and wipes our sins away. And by His blood, He has made us alive together with Christ. For it is by grace you have been saved. Through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

May Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as we remember how Your Son Jesus bore our sins in His body on the cross, we ask You to bless our hearing and our understanding of the mystery of Your love. Amen.

HOMILY

Pastor Peter

SONG

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US Stuart Townend

**How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

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The Tenebrae Sequence

I. LOVE'S FORGIVENESS

Reader 1: Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." (*Matthew 18:21-22*)

Reader 2: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals – one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."
(*Luke 23:32-34*)

HYMN

THERE IS A GREEN HILL FAR AWAY John H. Gower
(Music on the following page)

(The first candle is extinguished.)

THERE IS A GREEN HILL FAR AWAY

1. There is a green hill far a-way, With-out a cit-y wall,
2. We may not know, we can-not tell, What pains he had to bear;
3. He died that we might be for-givn, He died to make us good,
4. There was no oth-er good e-nough To pay the price of sin;
5. O dear-ly, dear-ly has he loved, And we must love him too,

Where the dear Lord was cru-ci-fied, Who died to save us all.
But we be-lieve it was for us He hung and suf-fered there.
That we might go at last to heavn, Saved by his pre-cious blood.
He on-ly could un-lock the gate Of heavn, and let us in.
And trust in his re-deem-ing blood, And try his works to do. A - MEN.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'There is a Green Hill Far Away'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains five lines of lyrics. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system.

II. LOVE'S REWARD

Reader 1: [Jesus said,] "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left. Then the King will say to those on His right: 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'" *(Matthew 25:31-34)*

Reader 2: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Jesus: "Aren't You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him, "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting

what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise." (*Luke 23:39-43*)

HYMN

12pm WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS *LSB 426*

7pm *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Dan Forrest
(Choir; Chelsea Muller, Violin)

See *LSB 426* for text

(The second candle is extinguished.)

III. LOVE'S CONCERN

Reader 1: While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, His mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to Him. Someone told Him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to You." He replied to him, "Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?" Pointing to His disciples, He said, "Here are My mother and My brothers. For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (*Matthew 12:46-50*)

Reader 2: Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.
(*John 19:25-27*)

HYMN

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN *LSB 430/vv. 1, 2, 7*

(The third candle is extinguished.)

IV. LOVE'S PRESENCE

Reader 1: Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
(Matthew 28:16-20)

Reader 2: At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?" *(Mark 15:33-34)*

HYMN O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED LSB 450/vv. 1, 6, 7
(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

V. LOVE'S NEED

Reader 1: On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within Him." *(John 7:37-38)*.

Reader 2: Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.
(John 19:28-29)

HYMN STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED LSB 451/vv.1, 4
(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

VI. LOVE'S COMPLETION

Reader 1: Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what He was talking about. (*Luke 18:31-34*)

Reader 2: When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished!" (*John 19:30a*)

HYMN O PERFECT LIFE OF LOVE *LSB 452/vv. 1, 5, 7*

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

VII. LOVE'S INVITATION

Reader 1: At the time Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (*Matthew 11:25a, 28-30*)

Reader 2: It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He said this, He breathed His last. (*Luke 23:44-46*)

HYMN WERE YOU THERE? Spiritual

**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?**

**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?**

(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

THE CONCLUDING GOSPEL READING

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. *(Matthew 27:57-61)*

QUARTET

Were You There?

*(Quartet: Kim Ebbecke, Karen Nitschke, Renate Tindall,
Wendy Melenbacker)*

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?

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?

Exit of the Christ Candle

Silent Departure

We leave confident in the resurrection.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Acolyte: 12 & 7pm: Declan Burke

Lay Reader: 12pm: Fred Mason

7pm: Beth D'Ambrosio

Live Stream: 7pm: Jason Gerlach

Sound: 12pm: Bob Helm

7pm: Michael Balentine

Ushers: 12pm: Al & Noreen Crouse, Scott Cronk, Skylar Jones,
Braedan DuBois, Bill & Sara Love

7pm: Mark Saresky, Kristine Parmele, Margo Natemeier,
Jeff Bartocci, David Pape

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE: The Festival of the Resurrection,
Easter Sunday, 8:30 Traditional Worship & 10:45am
Contemporary Worship. There will also be an Easter Brunch at
9:45am in the Auditorium and an Easter Egg Hunt for age 3 yrs. –
5th grade at 10:00am.

THE LENTEN BANNER is based on Isaiah 53:5, “...with his stripes we are healed,” and on 1 Peter 2:24, “By his wounds you have been healed.” It represents the loneliness of a man standing undefended as other human beings purposely cause him severe pain, the terrible brokenness of flesh, the absence of gentle healing hands or words. There can be little doubt that what Christ experienced was brutal. Yet as we think of the scene, in our minds we give it purpose and order, both in light of the prophecy that came before, and in the fulfillment of the prophecy that came after.

So, in this banner, the wounds are expressed with the colors of blood and damaged flesh, with frequent angles and fragmentation suggesting brokenness and pain. Yet the wounds, or “stripes,” are regular and vertical, with highlights of shining scarlet, indicating their symbolic role here. The background is a subdued purple, the liturgical color of Lent.

--Marla B. Friedrich, Designer/Artist

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