

GOOD FRIDAY

April 2, 2021

Please enter the sanctuary in silence.

PRELUDE “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” -set. Kevin Sadowski
“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” *LSB* 449

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Colossians 2:13–15*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear now words of forgiveness, spoken to you, flowing from the cross: “And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in Him.”

On the cross, God the Father took your sins and laid them upon His Son, Jesus Christ. On the cross, Jesus triumphed over sin, death, hell, and the devil. Everything Jesus did on the cross, He did for you. Because of the cross, you are fully and freely forgiven. In the stead and by the command of My Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT *Zechariah 12:10-14*

Lector: The Old Testament for Good Friday is from Zechariah, chapter 12.

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. The land shall mourn, each family^[a] by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9*

Lector: The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapters four and five.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For 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. Let 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. In 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. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

MEDITATION

+ **THE TENEBRAE** +

THE WORD OF FORGIVENESS *Luke 23:33–38*

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide His garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Music: "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" -Paul Manz

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your sinlessness You never needed forgiveness and yet You forgave those who sinned against You without cause. Give us grace and courage to forgive those who wrong us, that we may so draw attention to Your forgiving glory on the cross.

People: Amen.

The first candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF CONCERN *Luke 23:39–43*

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, “Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” And He said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

Music: “Ah, Holy Jesus” -Paul Manz

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus, remember us in Your kingdom that we, too, may be with You in Paradise because of Your precious death, and glorious resurrection.

People: Amen.

The second candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF LOVE *John 19:25–27*

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Music: “Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow” LSB 428

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus, even in Your death, You put those who are lonely and neglected into families. By our baptism, we have been brought into Your family, and named as God’s children. Draw many into Your family that we may praise You together with them forever.

People: Amen.

The third candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF LONELINESS *Mark 15:25–35*

And it was the third hour when they crucified Him. And the inscription of the charge against Him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with Him they crucified two robbers, one on His right and one on His left. And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself, and come down from the cross!” So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked Him to one another, saying, “He saved others; He cannot save Himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with Him also reviled Him. And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.”

Music: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” -Karen Keene

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You are the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. For our sake, You were forsaken by Your Father so that we would not be forsaken. Give us grace to rely on Your complete sacrifice, that we may always trust our Heavenly Father’s love for us.

People: Amen.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF SUFFERING *John 19:28–29*

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to His mouth.

Music: “Deep Were His Wounds” LBW 100

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Living Water, and You have promised that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness would be satisfied, yet, on our behalf, You thirsted and endured the agony of the cross. Give us faith to trust that Your thirst on the cross supplies all that we need.

People: Amen.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF VICTORY *John 19:30-37*

When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished,” and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Music: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” LSB 425

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You have loved us, and do love us, with an everlasting love. On the cross, you could have found the pain too much to bear. You could have come down from the cross, and let us take the punishment that we deserve. However, You remained there until all was finished. Give us confidence to follow You completely through our trials and crosses because You are the author and perfecter of our faith.

People: Amen.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

THE WORD OF REUNION *Luke 23:44–47*

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!” And having said this He breathed His last. Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this Man was innocent!”

Music: “My Song Is Love Unknown” LSB 430

COLLECT

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, when You had finished it all and fulfilled it all, You handed Your spirit over to Your Father, that He would then give His spirit back to You. Keep us all in the one true faith, that on the last day, Your spirit may be given back to our mortal bodies and we may rise to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The seventh candle is extinguished.

HYMN “Were You There” *LSB 456:1-3*

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 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?

Text: Public domain

Spoken softly:

LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

SYMBOLIC REMOVAL OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The removal of the Christ Candle symbolizes that our Savior hung in darkness for three God-forsaken hours before He died for the sins of the world.

SHUTTING OF THE TOMB

The congregation leaves the sanctuary and the building silently contemplating the death of Christ and looking forward to resurrection victory.