

# GOOD FRIDAY

April 15, 2022 – 11:30 a.m.

## AS WE GATHER

Our journey to follow Christ through witnesses to Christ here arrives at the cross. Today, we hear our Lord's seven words, spoken at the cross. We view Jesus beaten and bloodied. We hear His words of forgiveness and fulfillment. We see Jesus shed His blood for the life of the world. As we sing and pray and sit in silence this evening, we ponder Christ's love for us. We marvel at the gifts of forgiveness and salvation He has given us, for we have been clothed by the blood of Christ.

**PRELUDE** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" -Johann Sebastian Bach

## INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.**

## PASSION READING *John 18:1 – 19:16a*

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said,

“Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go.” This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.” Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” One of the servants 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?” Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak

to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

**HYMN "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" LSB 440**

1 Jesus, I will ponder now

On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow  
For such meditation.

Grant that I in love and faith  
May the image cherish  
Of Your suffering, pain, and death  
That I may not perish.

2 Make me see Your great distress,  
Anguish, and affliction,

Bonds and stripes and wretchedness  
And Your crucifixion;

Make me see how scourge and rod,  
Spear and nails did wound You,  
How for them You died, O God,  
Who with thorns had crowned You.

3 Yet, O Lord, not thus alone

Make me see Your passion,  
But its cause to me make known  
And its termination.

Ah! I also and my sin  
Wrought Your deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause has been  
Of Your crucifixion.

4 Grant that I Your passion view

With repentant grieving.  
Let me not bring shame to You  
By unholy living.

How could I refuse to shun  
Ev'ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son  
Suffered without measure?

5 If my sins give me alarm

And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
Peace of conscience give me.

Help me see forgiveness won  
By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son,  
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You,  
Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give You love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above  
Sing Your praise forever.  
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### THE FIRST WORD

*“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”*

### READING Luke 23:32-34

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 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.

### PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace. When You were mocked, You did not respond with harsh words. When You were tormented, You did not react in anger. When You were nailed to the cross, You prayed for the forgiveness of those who caused You to suffer. Give to us the virtues of gentleness, patience, and a forgiving spirit. Teach us also to love our enemies, and as children of the Heavenly Father, to live in Your peace.

### SERMONETTE

*Candle extinguished.*

### THE SECOND WORD

*“Today you will be with Me in paradise.”*

### HYMN “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” LSB 449

1 O sacred Head, now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded  
With thorns, Thine only crown.  
O sacred Head, what glory,  
What bliss, till now was Thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory,  
I joy to call Thee mine.

2 What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
Was all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression,  
But Thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!

'Tis I deserve Thy place;  
Look on me with Thy favor,  
And grant to me Thy grace.

3       What language shall I borrow  
      To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
For this Thy dying sorrow,  
      Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever!  
      And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never,  
      Outlive my love for Thee.

4       Be Thou my consolation,  
      My shield, when I must die;  
Remind me of Thy passion  
      When my last hour draws nigh.  
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,  
      Upon Thy cross shall dwell,  
My heart by faith enfold Thee.  
      Who dieth thus dies well.

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**READING** Luke 23:35-43

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." 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."

**PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite mercy, You heard the plea of the dying thief on the cross next to You. We pray that You would open our hearts to welcome those who turn to You, and rejoice in their salvation. When our last hour comes, hold us firm in our faith, and bring us also to live with You in paradise.

**SERMONETTE**

*Candle extinguished.*

**THE THIRD WORD**

*"Woman, behold, your son! Behold, your mother!"*

**HYMN** "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" *LSB* 451 sts. 1-3

1       Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
      See Him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;  
      Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet,  
      David's Son, yet David's Lord;

Proofs I see sufficient of it:

'Tis the true and faithful Word.

2      Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends through fear His cause disowning,  
Foes insulting His distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound Him,  
None would intervene to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him  
Was the stroke that justice gave.

3      Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view its nature rightly,  
Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed,  
See who bears the awful load;  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed,  
Son of Man and Son of God.

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#### **READING** John 19:19-27

Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." So the soldiers did these things, 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.

#### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, while You suffered the agony of the cross, Your thoughts turned to the welfare of others. Your concern was for Your mother in her sorrow. We pray that You would regard with pity all parents who mourn the death of their children, and all parents who sorrow because their children have gotten into trouble or have forsaken their faith. By Your grace, we pray that parents and children know peace and that relationships be restored.

#### **SERMONETTE**

*Candle extinguished.*

## THE FOURTH WORD

*“My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?”*

**HYMN** “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Has Thou Broken?” *LSB* 439 sts. 1, 2, 3, 15

- 1 O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken  
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?  
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,  
What dark transgression?
- 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;  
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;  
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;  
They crucify Thee.
- 3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?  
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;  
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,  
This I do merit.
- 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven  
To me the crown of joy at last is given,  
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,  
I, too, shall praise Thee.

Text: Public domain

**READING** Mark 15:33-36

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.” And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.”

### PRAYER

Lord God, Father of all people and Creator of all that exists, You hold all people in Your power. We pray that You would not forsake the world that Your Son died to redeem. Even though we still see the influence of sin and evil all around us, assure us of Your continued presence in our midst. Help us to know Your love in our lives, so we can show Your love to others.

### SERMONETTE

*Candle extinguished.*

## THE FIFTH WORD

*“I Thirst.”*

**HYMN** “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” *LSB* 437

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
And did my sov’ reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?

2        Was it for crimes that I had done  
      He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
      And love beyond degree!

3        Well might the sun in darkness hide  
      And shut his glories in  
When God, the mighty maker, died  
      For His own creatures' sin.

4        Thus might I hide my blushing face  
      While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
      And melt mine eyes to tears.

5        But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
      The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away:  
      'Tis all that I can do.

Text: Public domain

**READING** 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.

**PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, You endured not only spiritual anguish but also physical pain on the cross in our place. We thirst for the healing that only You can provide. When we find ourselves suffering, give us peace and patience to endure the pain that comes our way. Bring to our minds all that You endured for us, and give us the strength to bear our burdens by the grace of Your holy example.

**SERMONETTE**

*Candle extinguished.*

**THE SIXTH WORD**

*"It Is Finished."*

**HYMN** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" *LSB* 436 sts. 1-3

1    Go to dark Gethsemane,  
      All who feel the tempter's pow'r;  
Your Redeemer's conflict see,  
      Watch with Him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from His griefs away;  
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

2    Follow to the judgment hall,  
      View the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!  
      Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;  
Learn from Him to bear the cross.



3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;  
There, adoring at His feet,  
Mark that miracle of time,  
God's own sacrifice complete.  
"It is finished!" hear Him cry;  
Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Text: Public domain

**READING** John 19:29-30

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. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Author and Perfector of our faith. You did not stop short of finishing the task given to You by Your Father for the sake of us and the world. We pray that You would complete in us also everything that You intend for us, so that as children of the Heavenly Father, we may live for His glory.

**SERMONETTE**

*Candle extinguished.*

**THE SEVENTH WORD**

*"Into Your hands I commit my spirit."*

**HYMN** "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" *LSB* 434

1 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!      Text: Public domain

**READING** Luke 23:44-49

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!" And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

**PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, as You gave Your life on the cross in our place, You commended Your Spirit into the loving hands of Your Heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. When our last hour comes, grant us peace, that we may close our eyes with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever in the hands of our Heavenly Father.

**SERMONETTE**

*Candle extinguished.*

**READING** John 19:38-42

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

*(The congregation quietly prays as the Lord Himself has taught us.)*

**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.**

**STREPITUS**

*(The loud, sudden sound following the Lord's Prayer is to symbolize the death of Jesus and the closing of the tomb. As we depart from this service in silent meditation, we remember our need for deliverance and forgiveness and the price paid for achieving and fulfilling God's promises. It is finished.)*