



SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

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"In Nomine Iesu"

Good Friday

April 7, 2023

7:00 p.m.

About this evening's service.

Good Friday brings us to the heart of God's plan of salvation, combining elements of sorrow and love, despair and victory, death and life. Through the words and actions of this service we remember the completion of Jesus' saving work on the cross for us, for "the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin."
(1 John 1:7).

As the seven candles are extinguished one by one, and the lights in the sanctuary are turned off, we are reminded of the darkness that covered the earth at the time of our Lord's crucifixion. The darkness also serves as a reminder of the spiritual darkness that would exist had Jesus, the Light of the world, not come.

At the close of the Tenebrae, the Christ candle is extinguished, signifying Christ's death and burial, and a loud sound will be made (the "strepitus") which stands for the sealing of the tomb and that the mission of the cross is fulfilled, the sacrifice is complete. The Christ candle is eventually relit to remind us that our Easter hope is coming.

Although tonight's service is very solemn in nature, tonight we joyfully worship as God's loved and forgiven people, and we worship with adoration and thanksgiving for the perfect life that Jesus offered as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Offering will be collected before and after service.

*There will be no presentation of the offering
during the service this evening.*

+ Service of the Word +

All enter the church in silence.

P We continue tonight the worship service that began last night, when we celebrated Jesus' gift of the Lord's Supper. Tonight, we stand at the foot of the cross on Golgotha, while the crucified Christ breathes His last for our sake. His suffering is in plain view, as well as His great love. His death redeems us all!

Collect of the Day

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Solo *"A Legend"* *by Tchaikovsky*

Isaiah 53:4-11

P Surely he has borne our griefs

C **and carried our sorrows;**

P yet we esteemed him stricken,

C **smitten by God, and afflicted.**

P But he was wounded for our transgressions;

C **he was crushed for our iniquities;**

P upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C **and with his stripes we are healed.**

P All we like sheep have gone astray;

C **we have turned every one to his own way;**

P and the LORD has laid on him
C **the iniquity of us all.**

P He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
C **yet he opened not his mouth;**

P like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep
that before its shearers is silent,
C **so he opened not his mouth.**

P By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
C **stricken for the transgression of my people?**

P And they made his grave with the wicked
C **and with a rich man in his death,**

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

P Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
C **he has put him to grief;**

P when his soul makes an offering for sin,
C **he shall see his offspring;
he shall prolong his days;**

P the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be
satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one,
my servant,
C **make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.**

Choir Anthem *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*
Arranged by Lloyd Larson

The Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross

The First Word

Luke 23:32-38

³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ 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. ³⁴ And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ 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!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn *"Jesus, In Your Dying Woes"* LSB #447 vs 1-3

(The First Candle is Extinguished)

The Second Word

Luke 23:39-43

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³ And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn *“Jesus, In Your Dying Woes”* LSB #447 vs 4-6

(The Second Candle is Extinguished)

The Third Word

John 19:25-27

²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn *“Jesus, In Your Dying Woes”* LSB #447 vs 7-9

(The Third Candle is Extinguished)

The Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45-49

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ⁴⁷ And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.” ⁴⁸ And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn “*Jesus, In Your Dying Woes*” LSB #447 vs 10-12

(The Fourth Candle is Extinguished)

The Fifth Word

John 19:28-29

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” ²⁹ 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.

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn “*Jesus, In Your Dying Woes*” LSB #447 vs 13-15

(The Fifth Candle is Extinguished)

The Sixth Word

John 19:30a

³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished.”

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn “*Jesus, In Your Dying Woes*” LSB #447 vs 16-18

(The Sixth Candle is Extinguished)

The Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-49

⁴⁴ It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ 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. ⁴⁷ Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!" ⁴⁸ And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹ And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

Meditation and Prayer

Hymn *"Jesus, In Your Dying Woes"* LSB #447 vs 19-21

(The Seventh Candle is Extinguished)

Matthew 27:57-60

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.

The Strepitus

*(A loud sound symbolizing the stone being rolled
in front of the tomb)*

(The Christ Candle is Extinguished)

P O Lord,
C **have mercy.**

P O Christ,
C **have mercy.**

P O Lord,
C **have mercy.**

All 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.

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Concluding Collect

P Let us pray. Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, at this hour You hung upon the cross, stretching out Your loving arms to embrace the world in Your death. Grant that all people of the earth may look to You and see their salvation; for Your mercy's sake we pray.
C **Amen.**

The Christ candle is relit
(symbolizing that our Easter Hope is coming!)

The omission of the Benediction tonight indicates that our worship is not yet complete until we are joined together to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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I have been crucified with Christ.
It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.
And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith
in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
Galatians 2:20