

# GOOD FRIDAY



"IT IS FINISHED."  
JOHN 19:30

Good Friday  
April 7, 2023  
7:00 PM



Christ Lutheran Church  
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Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor  
Amanda Adams, DCE  
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☩  
**TENEBRAE**  
**SERVICE**  
☩  
**“A Service of Darkness”**

*Good Friday is part of the sacred Triduum, the three-day observance of Christ’s Passion. The name may originally have been “God’s Friday,” but it is certainly also “good” because of the good gifts Christ won for us on this day. Good Friday is not observed as a funeral for Christ. Rather, it is a day for repentance over sin and restrained joy and praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross. In keeping with this character, music is kept to a minimum, though not silenced. Elaborate words of praise are omitted. And, the altar remains bare, having been stripped on Maundy Thursday.*

**Introduction-**

☐ To impress on the minds and hearts of believers the awful consequence of sin and the magnitude of the Savior’s sacrifice, the ancient Church held a special service in the last days in Holy Week, called Tenebrae. The word means “darkness”. It comes from the ceremony carried out in this service of extinguishing in succession the candles in the Church. This service is based on this ancient order...

☐ The extinguishing of the candles is to remind us of the events that led to the darkness which covered the earth when Jesus hung on the cross. One candle remains burning until the end of the service to symbolize that even in the midst of death and darkness, the forces of hell shall not prevail against the Light of Christ.



**Prayer** (*To recognize the cost of sin*)

☐ “By Thy sweat bloody and clotted! Thy soul in agony  
Thy head crowned with thorns, bruised with staves  
Thine eyes a fountain of tears,  
Thine ears full of insults,  
Thy mouth moistened with vinegar and gall,  
Thy face stained with spitting,  
Thy neck bowed down with the burden of the Cross,  
Thy back ploughed with the wheels and wounds of the scourge,  
Thy pierced hands and feet,  
Thy strong cry, Eli, Eli,  
Thy heart pierced with a spear,  
Thy water and blood thence flowing,  
Thy body broken, Thy blood poured out—  
Lord forgive the iniquity of Thy servant  
And cover all his sins.”

**436 Go to Dark Gethsemane**

LSB 436 sts. 1-2

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column starting on the first staff and the second column starting on the second staff. The lyrics are: 1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the; 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see, life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring, griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray. shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Opening - "A Look Back"

**P** Tonight we would like to look back at that first Good Friday and re-examine the emotions of those who lived in that time. Recall in spirit how, as the sun climbs toward its zenith that morning, they fasten Jesus to the cross with great nails. At mid-day darkness covers the earth. At three o'clock Jesus yields up His Spirit. Joseph and Nicodemus beg His lifeless body from Pontius Pilate. Quickly they take it down from the cross and carefully lay it to rest in the unused tomb. A watch is established. The Roman seal set on the great stone. It is finished. O sorrow dread, God's Son is dead!

## First Scripture Reading - Matthew 26:47-50 "The Work of Men"

**L** <sup>47</sup> While He was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With Him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The One I kiss is the Man; arrest Him." <sup>49</sup> Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. <sup>50</sup> Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came for." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested Him.

## Comment on First Reading - "Betrayal"

**P** Forsaken by friends— "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" The tragic events of this night begin, in terms of men, with Judas of Iscariot. Judas is one of the twelve. So for thirty pieces of silver, the price of a slave, Jesus is made available to evil men. Now Jesus is becoming the outcast. Men begin to turn on Him. One of His special pupils is giving Him into the hands of the enemy. Is there a greater tragedy in life than to have one, whom you love, betray you?

## 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB 436 st. 3

3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing  
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

Text and tune: Public domain

Extinguish 1st Candle

**Second Scripture Reading** – Matthew 26:62-68 “The Charge”

**L** <sup>62</sup>Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, “Are You not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against You?” <sup>63</sup>But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to Him, “I charge You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God.” <sup>64</sup>“Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” <sup>65</sup>Then the high priest tore His clothes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. <sup>66</sup>What do you think?” “He is worthy of death,” they answered. <sup>67</sup>Then they spit in His face and struck Him with their fists. Others slapped Him <sup>68</sup>and said, “Prophesy to us, Christ. who hit You?”

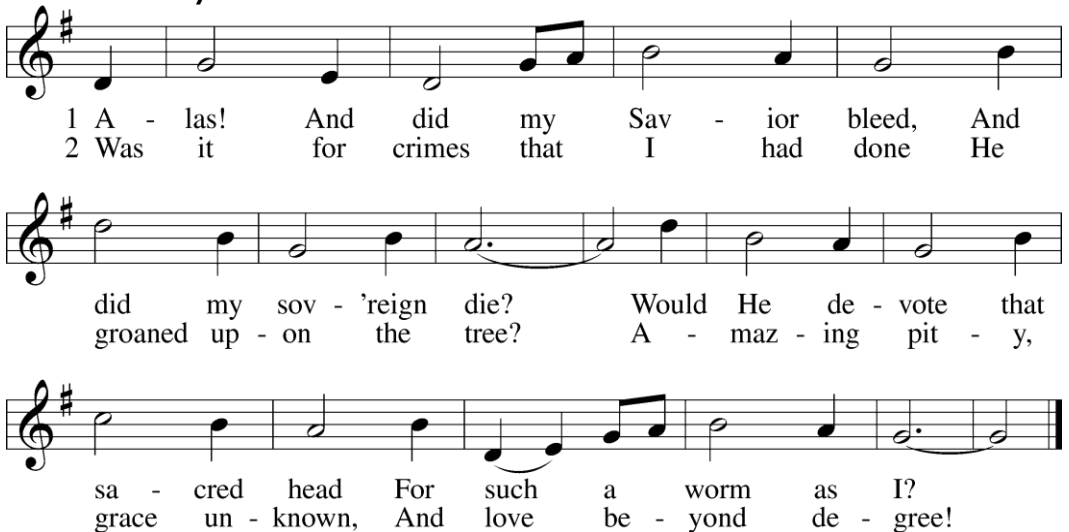
**Comment on Second Reading** - “The Rejection”

**P** His Church rejects Him. Caiaphas, the high Priest, rises and tears His garments, crying out, “This Man blasphemes God!” His Church makes this accusation against Him! Can you feel His heartbreak? He, as God, nourishes, blesses, corrects and helps His Church against countless enemies. Into her keeping He places the sacred trust of the promised Messiah. Now that the Messiah has come, she cries out against Him, “This man blasphemes God,” and she makes her preparations to have Him put to death.

Extinguish 2nd Candle

**437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed**

LSB 437 sts. 1-2

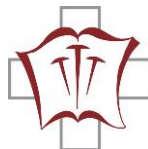


1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And He  
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He

did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that  
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,

sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!

Text and tune: Public domain



### Third Scripture Reading - Luke 23:6-11 *"The Trial"*

**L** <sup>6</sup>On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. <sup>7</sup>When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. <sup>8</sup>When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see Him. From what he had heard about Him, he hoped to see Him perform some miracle. <sup>9</sup>He plied Him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing Him. <sup>11</sup>Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked Him. Dressing Him in an elegant robe, they sent Him back to Pilate.

### Comment on Third Reading - *"The People's Judgment"*

**P** Forsaken by His people. Herod will have none of Him. Herod is leader of God's chosen people. But Herod mocks Jesus and sends Him back to Pilate. Has your nation ever declared you an outlaw? Are you a man without a country? When you try to understand the awful pangs of the man who has no home, you begin to feel what Jesus felt that night.

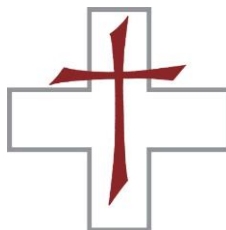
*Extinguish 3rd Candle*

### 437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

LSB 437 sts. 3-5

3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And  
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While  
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The  
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y  
His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in  
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -  
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.  
thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.  
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text and tune: Public domain



#### **Fourth Scripture Reading - Luke 23:20-24 “The Verdict”**

Ⓛ <sup>20</sup> Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. <sup>21</sup> But they kept shouting, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!” <sup>22</sup> For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in Him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have Him punished and then release Him.” <sup>23</sup> But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that He be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. <sup>24</sup> So Pilate decided to grant their demand.

#### **Comment on Fourth Reading - “The World’s Judgment”**

Ⓟ Forsaken by the world. Pilate washes his hands of Jesus. He knows Jesus to be innocent and still, Pilate delivers Him to be crucified. Pilate! The World! His last chance of appeal, and it is gone. Now only the way of Sorrows lies before Him. The heavy cross, the wailing women, the taunting multitude, the bitter wine, the thorns, the nails, - the cross.

*Extinguish 4th Candle*

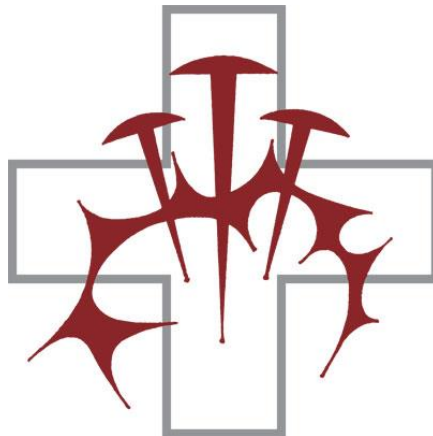
#### **Fifth Scripture Reading - Luke 23: 26-27, 32-33 “The Sentence”**

Ⓛ <sup>26</sup> As they led Him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. <sup>27</sup> A large number of people followed Him, including women who mourned and wailed for Him. <sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. <sup>33</sup> 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.

#### **Comment on Fifth Reading - “By Our Hand”**

Ⓟ How clever we are to use the law against Him. For, according to the law of Moses (Deuteronomy) anyone “hung on a tree is under God’s curse” and outside the covenant community. Hear the crowd mourn and wail for Him! Jesus, God’s own Son is forsaken by friends, His church, His people, and the world.

*Extinguish 5th Candle*



## 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

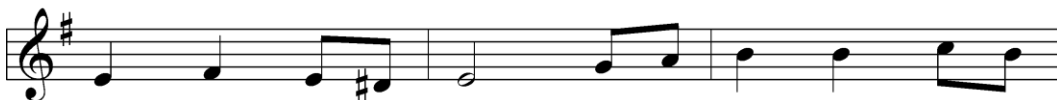
LSB 451 sts. 1-2



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the  
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my  
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed  
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I  
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.

Tune and text: Public domain

## Sermon

### Sixth Scripture Reading - Matthew 27:45-46 “*The Cry*”

**L** <sup>45</sup> From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. <sup>46</sup> About 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?”

### Comment on Sixth Reading - “*In Our Place*”

**P** And He is forsaken by God. Only once has this happened in all of history. Only once has God forsaken a man, and that Man was Jesus. Try, but you cannot imagine what it means to be forsaken by God, for lo, He is with you always, even unto the ends of the world (Matthew 28:20). That is why the cry from the cross is such an agonizing cry. This is the depth to which He goes. The final separation from God. Jesus takes our punishment.

*Extinguish 6th Candle*



## 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

LSB 451 sts. 3-4



3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil  
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the  
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its  
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the  
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -  
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners  
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the  
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall  
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Tune and text: Public domain

### Seventh Scripture Reading - Luke 23:46 "It Is Finished"

**L** <sup>46</sup> Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit." When He had said this, He breathed His last.

### Comment on Seventh Reading - "Sadness, Gloom, and Sorrow"

**P** Then, He cries with a loud voice, He bows His weary head, and yields, He gives His life. Forsaken by men and God. This is His supreme sacrifice, for God and for men. Jesus Dies. The soldiers come. They pierce His side. Out flows blood and water. They take Him down from the cross. Gently and tenderly Joseph and Nicodemus take His body down and carry it to the tomb. Then, the Passover being at hand, they go to their homes to keep the ancient feast. Sadness, gloom, and sorrow fill their being. Jesus, the One they love is dead.

### *Extinguish 7th Candle*

*The strepitus (Latin for "great noise"), made by slamming a book shut, banging a hymnal or breviary against the pew, or stomping on the floor, symbolizes the earthquake that followed Christ's death, although it may have originated as a simple signal to depart.*

- ☐ Behold, one light still burns. They have not all gone out. Nor have they forever taken the life of my Lord. The hellish crew—death and the grave—these do not hold Him. He does not stay dead. Jesus conquers.

### **Return Of The Christ Candle - “The Victory”**

- ☐ It is His victory, His triumph. We live because of Him. Yes, in the chaos of the elements, through the quaking earth, the rending veil, the opening graves, He lives! Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

### **Victory Scripture Reading - Colossians 1: 17-22**

- ☐ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything He might have supremacy. <sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, <sup>20</sup> And through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross. <sup>21</sup> Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup> But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

### *Stand*

*All are invited to celebrate this victory Sunday at our Easter Sunday Services.*

*Some lights are turned back on so that people can see to exit, but the church remains dim.*

*Please exit the sanctuary in silence*

### **Acknowledgments**

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# HOLY WEEK



PALM SUNDAY  
APRIL 2 - 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY  
APRIL 6 - 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY  
APRIL 7 - 7:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY  
APRIL 9 - 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

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