

GOOD FRIDAY

Three Hour Worship

*April 3, 2026
Noon to 3:00 pm*



“We all, like sheep, have gone astray . . .
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”
(Isaiah 53:6)



Radio Broadcast – WOSH 1490AM & 93.9 FM
Live video: www.youtube.com/@STPLMinistries

Good Friday Three Hour Worship
April 3, 2026
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Order of Service

WELCOME

HYMN

JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW (CW 420 vs. 1,2,5,6)

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 suff'ring, 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 has crowned you.*

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.*

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: The Son of Man did not come to be served

C: **But to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.** (*Matthew 20:28*)

P: He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;

C: **the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.** (*Isaiah 53:5*)

P: In him we have redemption through his blood,

C: **the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.** (*Ephesians 1:7*)

P: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us,

C: **for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole."** (*Galatians 3:13*)

P: With an understanding of ourselves and our sin, let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

C: **Almighty God, you created us to love and fear you. But ruined by the fall into sin, we now must confess that we neither love nor fear you as we should. We have not loved others as we love ourselves. We have sinned in thought, word and action, by what we have done and what we have failed to do. For this we deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

C: We are sorry for our sins and plead for your forgiveness.

P: God does not treat us as our sins deserve. He sent his Son to live for us and love us. He was betrayed, beaten and crucified for our sins. God made him who knew no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

READING

Isaiah 53:3-9

HYMN

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS (CW 407 vs. 1,3,4)

1. *When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.*
3. *See from his hand, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mangled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet or thorns compose so rich a crown?*
4. *Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

READING

John 19: 1-18

HYMN

A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH (CW 422 vs. 1-3)

1. *A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, our guilt and evil bearing;
And, laden with the sins of earth, none else the burden sharing
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint, to slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer, bears shame and stripes and wounds and death,
Anguish and mockery and says, "Willing all this I suffer."*
2. *This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend. The Lamb of God, our Savior;
Him God the Father chose to send, to gain for us his favor.
"Go forth, my Son," the Father said, "And free my children from their dread
Of guilt and condemnation. The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by your passion they will share the fruit of your salvation."*
3. *"Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I'll bear what you command me.
My will conforms to your decree, I'll do what you have asked me."
O wondrous Love, what have you done! The Father offers up his Son,
Desiring our salvation. O Love, how strong you are to save!
You make his bed within the grave who built the earth's foundation.*

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

(If you cannot remain for the entire service, you are requested to time your departure to coincide with the intermission at the close of each word. An offering to cover today's radio broadcast is being received as you leave.)

THE FIRST WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Robert Balza, Retired)

P: *The prayer for the first word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

UPON THE CROSS EXTENDED (CW 434)

- Upon the cross extended, see, world, your Lord suspended; your Savior yields his breath.
The Prince of life from heaven himself has freely given to shame and blows and bitter death.*
- Who is it, Lord, that bruised you? Who has so sore abused you and caused you all your woe?
We all must make confession of sin and dire transgression, while you no ways of evil know.*
- I caused your grief and sighing by evils multiplying as countless as the sands.
I caused the woes unnumbered with which your soul is cumbered, your sorrows raised by wicked hands.*
- Your soul in griefs unbounded, your head with thorns surrounded, you died to ransom me.
The cross for me enduring, the crown for me securing, you healed my wounds and set me free.*
- Your cross I place before me, its saving pow’r restore me, sustain me in the test.
It will, when life is ending, be guiding and attending my way to your eternal rest.*

P: A reading from, 1 Peter 2:21-25

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 1)

- Their nails were freshly driven, their hatred clearly shown,
When, “Let them be forgiven,” was heard at heaven’s throne.
Your enemies, O Jesus, you loved beyond degree,
A love so pure and precious it even pardoned me.*

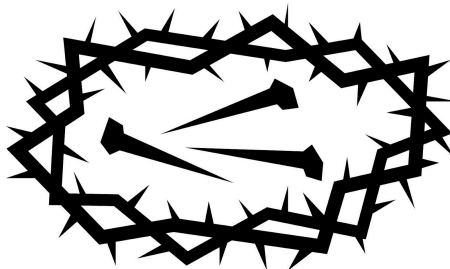
MEDITATION

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:34

ANTHEM

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD (St. Matthew Adult Choir) Arranged by J. Stainer

*God so loved the world, that who-so believeth in him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;
But that the world through Him might be saved.*



THE SECOND WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Ryan Kolander, Riverview, Appleton)

P: *The prayer for the second word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING (CW 396 vs 1, 3, 5, 6)

1. *Christ, the life of all the living, Christ the death of death, our foe,
Who, thyself for me once giving, to the darkest depths of woe:
Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit, I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.*

3. *Thou hast borne the smiting only, that my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring, blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.*

5. *Thou hast suffered men to bruise thee, that from pain I might be free;
Falsely did thy foes accuse thee thence I gain security.
Comfortless thy soul did languish me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.*

6. *Thou hast suffered great affliction and hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion fully to atone for me.
Thou didst choose to be tormented that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.*

P: A reading from, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 2)

2. *On you, my King, depending, I'm rid of all my sins!
My final day here ending, my first in heav'n begins.
As you have truly spoken, in paradise I'll be,
With you in bliss unbroken – you will remember me.*

MEDITATION

“I tell you the truth, today, you will be with Me in paradise.” Luke 23:43

ANTHEM

MEDITATION FOR LENT-THERE IS A GREEN HILL (Riverview Grades 3-5)

Arranged by Michael Bedford

*There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall, where our dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.
O dearly, dearly has he loved! And we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming love, and try his will to do.*

*O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?
Of what great crime have you to make confession, what dark transgression?*

*There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall, where our dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.
O dearly, dearly has he loved! And we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming love, and try his will to do.
And try his will to do. O dearest Jesus.*

THE THIRD WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Brad Krause, FVL, Appleton)

P: *The prayer for the third word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED (CW 430)

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, as you 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. *If you think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great,
Here you see 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.*
4. *Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost;
Christ, the rock of our salvation, is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.*

P: A reading from, Hebrews 2:14-18

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 3)

3. *A Savior like no other, all self-concern denied,
You served your grieving mother while you were crucified.
My sin had made me filthy, but you, the perfect child,
Were designated guilty, and I am reconciled.*

MEDITATION

“Dear woman, here is your Son! Here is your Mother!” John 19:26,27

ANTHEM

LAMB OF GOD (FVL Choir)

Arranged by F. Melius Christiansen

*Lamb of God, most holy, who on the cross didst suffer,
Patient still and lowly, thyself to scorn didst offer;
Our sins by thee were taken, or hope had us forsaken;
Have mercy on us, O Jesu!*

THE FOURTH WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Dennis Belter, Retired)

P: *The prayer for the fourth word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

O DEAREST JESUS, WHAT LAW HAVE YOU BROKEN (CW 432 vs. 1, 3, 4, 5)

1. *O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken that such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?
Of what great crime have you to make confession, what dark transgression?*
3. *Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish? It is my sins for which you,
Lord, must languish; yes, all the wrath, the woe that you inherit, this I do merit.*
4. *What punishment so strange is suffered yonder! The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt his servants owe him, who would not know him.*
5. *The sinless Son of God must die in sadness; the sinful child of man may live in gladness;
We forfeited our lives, yet are acquitted; God is committed.*

P: A reading from, Psalm 22:1-19

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 4)

4. *Condemned, cut off, forsaken, outside the Father's care,
By terror overtaken, no ear would hear your prayer.
On you God's wrath was vented, on you his fury fell,
When, on the cross tormented, you took my place in hell.*

MEDITATION

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Matthew 27:46

ANTHEM

GETHSEMANE HYMN (TO SEE THE KING OF HEAVEN FALL)(St. Paul Hallel Choir)

*To see the King of heaven fall in anguish to His knees;
The Light and Hope of all the world now overwhelmed with grief.
What nameless horrors must He see, to cry out in the garden.
“O take this cup away from Me, yet not My will but Yours, yet not My will but Yours.”*

*To know each friend will fall away, and heaven's voice be still,
For hell to have its vengeful day upon Golgotha's hill.
No words describe the Savior's plight to be by God forsaken
Til wrath and love are satisfied and ev'ry sin is paid, and ev'ry sin is paid.*

*What took Him to this wretched place? What kept Him on this road?
His love for Adam's helpless race, for ev'ry broken soul
No sin too slight to overlook, no crime too great to carry,
All rained in this poisoned cup, and yet He drank it all.
The Savior drank it all. The Savior drank it all.*

THE FIFTH WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Tim Priewe, Mt. Olive, Appleton)

P: *The prayer for the fifth word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN (CW 394)

- 1. Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain flows to you, to me, to all,
In a full, perpetual tide, opened when our Savior died.*
- 2. Come in poverty and meanness, come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, from the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; you shall walk with God in light.*
- 3. Come in sorrow and contrition, wounded, paralyzed, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; they that drink shall thirst no more.*
- 4. They that drink shall live forever; 'tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never break his covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, sealed when he was glorified.*

P: A reading from, Psalm 69:8-21

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 st. 5)

- 5. My Lord, in death's dark valley, both soul and body drained,
One drink would help you rally what little strength remained
To raise your voice in vict'ry, to sound your foe's defeat –
The highest point in hist'ry – my rescue was complete.*

MEDITATION

“I am thirsty.” John 19:28

ANTHEM

LOOK TO THE CROSS (Mt. Olive Choir)

Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

*Look to the cross, see His agony and pain. Look to the cross, see His suffering and shame.
It was I who should have died; it was I who should have been crucified.
But here I am: looking to the cross, I gaze upon the Lamb.*

*Look to the cross, see His bleeding hands and feet.
Look to the cross, where His love has met my need.
It was I who should have died; it was I who should have been crucified.
But, here I am: looking to the cross, I gaze upon the Lamb.*

*My Faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away,
O, let me from this day be wholly Thine!*

Look to the cross.

THE SIXTH WORD

(Conducted by Pastor David Schmidt, St. Luke, Little Chute)

P: *The prayer for the sixth word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

THE POWER OF THE CROSS (CW 423)

1. *Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day: Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then Nailed to a cross of wood.
This the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; we stand forgiven at the cross.*
2. *Oh, to see the pain written on your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed crowning your blood-stained brow.
This the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; we stand forgiven at the cross.*
3. *Now the daylight flees; now the ground beneath quakes as its maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, Dead are raised to life; “Finished!” the vict'ry cry.
This the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath; we stand forgiven at the cross.*
4. *Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for thro' your suff'ring I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live, won thro' your selfless love!
This the pow'r of the cross: Son of God – slain for us.
What a love, what a cost! We stand forgiven at the cross.*

P: A reading from, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 6)

6. *Though sin's most lethal wages to me, O Christ, were due,
The guilt of all the ages came crashing down on you.
Most surely, “It is finished” – my debt is fully paid,
My joy is undiminished; my heart is unafraid.*

MEDITATION

“It is finished.” John 19:30

ANTHEM

JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE (St. Paul L.I.F.T. Singers)

Arranged by Joey Schumann

*Jesus, priceless treasure, Source of purest pleasure, truest friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish shall my spirit languish, yearning, Lord for thee?
Thou art mine, o Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide thee, naught I ask beside thee, naught I ask beside thee.*

*In thine arms I rest me; foes who would molest me cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, ev'ry heart be quaking, Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash and thunders crash; yet, tho' sin and hell assail me, Jesus will not fail me.
Jesus will not fail me.*

(Continued on next page)

*Satan, I defy thee; death, I now decry thee; fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me nor thy threats alarm me while I sing of peace.
Pain or loss or shame or cross shall not from my Savior move me since he chose to love me.
Since he chose to love me.*

*Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, though the storms may gather, still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er I here must bear, thou art still my purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure! Jesus, priceless treasure!*



THE SEVENTH WORD

(Conducted by Pastor Matt Holtz, St. Paul, Appleton)

P: *The prayer for the seventh word ends with “one God, now and forever.”*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

IN CHRIST ALONE (CW 510)

- In Christ alone my hope is found; he is my light, my strength my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all; here in the love of Christ I stand.*
- In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe;
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save,
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.*
- There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.*
- No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.*

P: A reading from, Luke 23:47-56

HYMN

THE SEVEN WORDS (CW 436 vs. 7)

- My death will be triumphant no matter how I die;
Lord Jesus, in that instant escort my soul on high
Into my Father's keeping, all blameless and all-blest,
Like waking up from sleeping, his hands my place of rest.*

MEDITATION

“Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit.” Luke 23:46

ANTHEM

JERUSALEM (St. Paul L.I.F.T. Singers)

*See Him in Jerusalem, walking where the crowds are.
Once these streets had sung to Him. Now they cry for murder.
Such a frail and lonely Man, Holding up a heavy cross.
See Him walking in Jerusalem on the road to save us.*

*See Him there upon the hill. Hear the scorn and laughter.
Silent as a lamb He waits, praying to the Father.
See the King who made the sun and the moon and shining stars.
Let the soldiers hold and nail Him down so that He could save them.*

*See Him there upon the cross, now no longer breathing.
Dust that formed the watching crowds takes the blood of Jesus.
Feel the earth is shaking now. See the veil is split in two.
And He stood before the wrath of God, shielding sinners with His blood.*

*See the empty tomb today. Death could not contain Him.
Once the Servant of the world, now in victory reigning.
Lift your voices to the One who is seated on the throne.
See Him in the New Jerusalem. Praise the One who saved us.
Praise the One who saved us.*

P: *The closing prayers and blessing.*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE (CW 405)

*On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures have no pow'r to hide your face.
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, and my glory and salvation.*

