



GOOD  
FRIDAY

***THE WAY OF THE CROSS***

**April 18, 2025  
6:30pm**

**Welcome to Holy Week at St. Luke's!** We're glad you found your way here, and we would love to get to know you better. No matter what your background or experience with religion, **there's room for you here.** This is a week that offers more than beloved traditions; it also addresses **deeply relevant questions and human needs.**

**Palm Sunday** asked **what does real power look like?** What does it mean to lead? Who are we worshipping when we worship Christ? Can we trust the fickle whims of a crowd?

**Maundy Thursday** asked what does it mean to serve? **How do we know Jesus is with us?** What connects us as a community? How can we love our community?

Tonight's **Good Friday** service is adapted from a service currently used on the Via Dolorosa, the "way of sorrows." Also called "the way of the cross," this is the traditional route Jesus took to the Cross, which pilgrims and local Christians in the Old City of Jerusalem still walk as a devotional practice.

14 times along the way, at designated "stations," the walkers stop to hear scripture, to pray and to sing. Our service combines 9 of the traditional 14 stations with contemporary reflections. They give us the chance to wonder how can society be so blind and evil? Why is there suffering in the world? **How is Jesus present in today's suffering?** What do we do with our guilt?

As part of tonight's service, we will gradually strip the altar, the lights will dim, and we will leave in silence.

Early this morning, as the cock crowed in the Kidron Valley, our Lutheran and Anglican sisters and brothers in Jerusalem joined together to walk the route Jesus took to the Cross. Tonight is our opportunity to join them.

**PRELUDE**

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

Michael Burkhardt

*Please sit in silence, using this time to pray and reflect on the events of Jesus' last days.*

## **WORD OF WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

In this holy week, on this holy day,

**We come to be present with Jesus in his suffering.**

With the glory of Palm Sunday behind us and the victory of Easter not yet come,

**We gather with our breaking and broken hearts.**

In this world that is at once beautiful and holy and tragic,

**We seek to be present with all who suffer.**

When sorrow threatens to overwhelm,

**We long for a brave and sacred space—**

A space where we can listen and sing and pray,

**A space to sit with our grief and our questions.**

Let us be that space for each other today

**As we remember the story together.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**HYMN**

“Lamb of God”

#336

### **I. JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**

**Mark 14:53, 55, 61b-64**

*They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the blessed One?” Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?” All of them condemned him as deserving death.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray....

Lord, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy

## II. JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

**John 19:14-17**

*Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy

## ANTHEM

"Saw Ye My Savior"  
Voices of St. Luke's, Todd Beutin, Clarinet

arr. D.N. Johnson

## III. JESUS FALLS FOR THE FIRST TIME

**Psalms 69:1-2**

*Save me, Oh God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters and the flood sweeps over me.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

**IV. JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER**

**John 19:25-27**

*Meanwhile, standing near 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 he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

**HYMN**

"What Wondrous Love is This"

#666, vs 1

(Verses 2-4 written by Marty Haugen and are displayed on screen)

**V. SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS TO CARRY JESUS' CROSS Mark 15:21**

*Two soldiers compelled a passerby, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

**VI. JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS**

**Matthew 27:27-31**

*Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they*

*put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

**HYMN**

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

#351, vs 1, 3, & 4  
(vs 3 a cappella)

## **VII. JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS**

**Luke 23:32-34**

*Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Let us pray...

Lord, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy

## **VIII. JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS**

**Luke 23:44-46**

*It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.  
**Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*Silence*

Let us pray ...

Lord, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**  
Lord, have mercy

**Anthem**

“Kyrie”  
Voices of St. Luke's

Antonin Dvorak

**IX. JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB**

**Luke 23:50-53**

*Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.*

**Hymn**

“Were You There”

#353, vs 1, 2, 4 & 5  
(vs 4 & 5 a cappella)

Sealing of the Tomb

Depart in silence

