

Tenebrae Service for Good Friday

Behold the Lamb

Your offering may be placed in the plate at the entrance to the sanctuary. There will be no pre-service music or announcements.

Procession of the Cross

Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the ages
to do away with sin by sacrificing Himself.

Hymn of the Cross *Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted* LSB 451

Prayer

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our LORD Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sermon Hymn *Jesus I Will Ponder Now* LSB 440
(Vs. 1-4)

Sermon “The Sacrificed Lamb” Isaiah 53:4-7a

Hymn *Jesus I Will Ponder Now* LSB 440
(Vs. 5)

THE OFFICE OF TENEBRAE

I. HIS FRIENDS OPPOSED HIM

Hymn *Go to Dark Gethsemane* LSB 436
(Vs. 1)

The Lesson

Matthew 26:36-50

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

(The first candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

II. THE CHURCH REJECTED HIM

Hymn *Go to Dark Gethsemane* LSB 436
(Vs. 2)

False witnesses rise up against Me, breathing out violence
(Psalm 27:12).

It is nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look around and see. Is any suffering like My suffering (Lamentations 1:12).

The Lesson

Matthew 26:57-68

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

(The second candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

III. HIS COUNTRY OUTLAWED HIM

Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450
(Vs. 1-2)

The Lesson

Luke 23:1-16

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

(The third candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

IV. THE WORLD’S SYSTEM ELIMINATED HIM

Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* LSB 450
(Vs. 3)

He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed (Isaiah 53:5).

The Lesson

Mark 15:6-15

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

(The fourth candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

V. GOD FORSOOK HIM

Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded LSB 450
(Vs. 5)

The Lesson

Matthew 27:32-46

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

(The fifth candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

VI. HE DIED

Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded LSB 450
(Vs. 6)

He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:12).

[Christ] became obedient to death—even death on a cross (Philippians 2:8).

The Lesson

Luke 23:44-49

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

(The sixth candle is extinguished, and the bell is tolled.)

VII. HE WAS BURIED

Hymn

Were You There LSB 456
(Vs. 1-3)

You have put Me in the lowest pit, in the darkest depths. I am like a man without strength (Psalm 88:6, 4).

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death (Isaiah 53:9).

The Lesson

John 19:31-42

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IS REMOVED

The last candle is carried out.
During the darkness, please meditate
on Christ's suffering and death.

Pastor: Let us pray for all those things for which our LORD would have us ask, saying:

LORD'S Prayer (spoken softly by all)

Our Father who art in heaven
Hallowed by 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.

The Strepitus (*The stone is rolled in front of the tomb.*)

The Candle is Returned

*(A single chime will ring 33 times, once for each year of Jesus' life.)
The last candle is returned, symbolizing the completion of salvation.*

Depart in Silence

After the candle is returned and you have completed your Good Friday meditation, you are asked to leave in silence anticipating the joys of Easter while contemplating the solemnity of Good Friday. You may remain in the sanctuary for meditation or prayer as long as you like. The omission of the benediction this evening indicates that our worship is not complete until joined with the celebration of Easter. Easter Sunrise Worship is on Sunday at 7:00 a.m. at the church followed by Easter Sunday Resurrection Celebration with Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

His Friends Opposed Him

Matthew 26:36-50 (ESV)

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” ³⁹ And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” ⁴⁰ And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴² Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” ⁴³ And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.” ⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” ⁴⁹ And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

The Church Rejected Him

Matthew 26:57-68 (ESV)

⁵⁷ Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸ And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹ and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” ⁶² And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸ saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”

His Country Outlawed Him

Luke 23:1-16 (ESV)

¹ Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. ² And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.” ³ And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” ⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.” ⁵ But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.” ⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And when he learned that he belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹ So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. ¹⁰ The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹ And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹² And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. ¹³ Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵ Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶ I will therefore punish and release him.”

The World’s System Eliminated Him

Mark 15:6-15 (ESV)

⁶ Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷ And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸ And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹ And he answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” ¹⁰ For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹² And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” ¹³ And they cried out again, “Crucify him.” ¹⁴ And Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him.” ¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

God Forsook Him

Matthew 27:32-46 (ESV)

³² As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷ And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus,

the King of the Jews.”³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads⁴⁰ and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying,⁴² “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.”⁴³ He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ”⁴⁴ And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.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?”

He Died

Luke 23:44-49 (ESV)

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.

He Was Buried

John 19:31-42 (ESV)

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away.³² So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him.³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.³⁶ For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.”³⁷ And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”³⁸ 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.³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight.⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.⁴¹ 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.⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.