



Surely He has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed Him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

+ Isaiah 53:4

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**April 10, 2020**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Tonight, we stand at the foot of the cross. Looking with human, worldly eyes, we behold a travesty of justice – the innocent Jesus who was betrayed by His disciple Judas, convicted at a sham trial, and condemned to die by Pilate at the roaring of the crowds, now pierced by nails and a spear as He hangs crucified on the cross.

There is a better view – a heavenly view – of Good Friday. So tonight, we try to look through the eyes of the Holy Trinity and behold the fulfillment of the long-awaited promise of God that He will redeem the whole of fallen creation. The Father sees our sins taken upon Jesus on the cross. The Son gazes on us in forgiving mercy. The Holy Spirit gives us new eyes as we proclaim. “Oh, come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2).

The service of Tenebrae (meaning “darkness”) consists of extinguishing the lights as the service progresses. It is a reminder of the darkness that came over the land as Christ hung on the cross and the greater darkness that occurred when the Author of Life was put to death. The loud noise heard at the end of this service is called the strepitus (Latin for noise, racket, or crash). It has various interpretations, including the scourging by the soldiers, the earthquake at the moment of Christ’s death, or the closing of the tomb.

But the service on Good Friday is no funeral for Christ! Yes, it is a day for repentance over sin but also a day for restrained joy and praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross. The bonds that hold Christ in death and the restrains on our joy and praise will soon be loosed on the third day

Yours in Christ Jesus, +Pastor Griebenaw

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✠ Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers ✠

*Stand*

**OPENING VERSICLES**

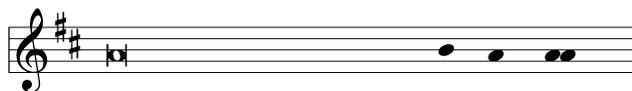
*Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**G** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

### Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

*LSB 450, stz. 1-3*



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!  
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!  
Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.  
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.  
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

**P** The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John, the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged Him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head and arrayed Him in a purple robe. They came up to Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck Him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing Him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in Him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die because He has made Himself the Son of God."

When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to Him, "You will not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You and authority to crucify You?" Jesus answered him, "**You would have no authority over Me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered Me over to you has the greater sin.**"

From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this Man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, . . .

*A candle is extinguished.*

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded**

LSB 450, stz. 4-7



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.  
5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,  
6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;  
7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.  
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?  
Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!  
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.



Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;  
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,  
When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,  
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.  
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.  
But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!  
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

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*Stand*





1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The  
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The  
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll  
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the  
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther  
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to  
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes  
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go  
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O  
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -  
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren  
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers  
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the  
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and  
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how  
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and  
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion  
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -  
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."  
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."  
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.  
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

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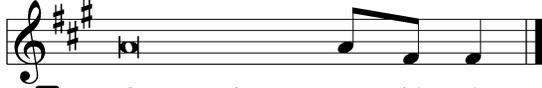
Sermon

Stand

## ADORATION OF THE CROSS



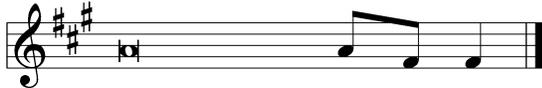
**P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.



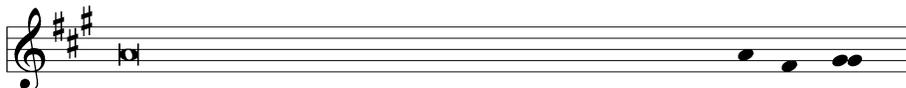
**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.



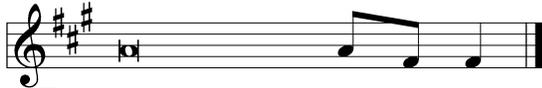
**P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.



**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.



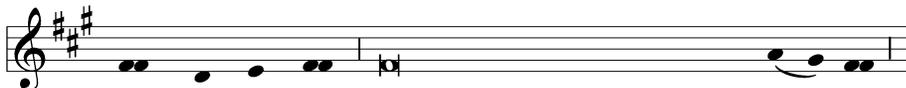
**P** Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.



**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

*Sit (you may also choose to kneel)*

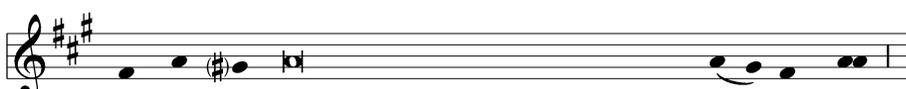
## REPROACHES



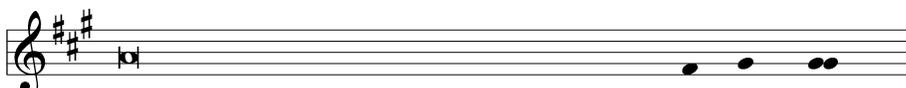
**P** Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,



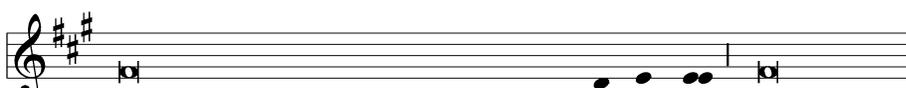
and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.



For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death,



and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged.



For I have redeemed you from the house of bond - age, and you have



nailed your Sav - ior to the cross. O My peo - ple.

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -  
deem - er; God eternal, leave us not to  
bit - ter death. O Lord, have mer - cy.

**HYMN: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy**

LSB 434, stz. 1

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,  
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.  
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

*A candle is extinguished.*

Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,  
and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.

For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and  
delivered Me to those who per - se - cute Me. For I have fed you with  
My Word and refreshed you with living wa - ter, and you have given  
Me gall and vin - e - gar to drink. O My peo - ple.

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -

deem - er; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of

death and hell. O Lord, have mer - cy.

**HYMN: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy**

*LSB 434, stz. 2*

2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,  
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.  
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

*A candle is extinguished.*

**P** Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,  
 and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.  
 What more could have been done for My vine - yard than I have  
 done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield on-ly bad?  
 My people, is this how you thank your God? O My peo - ple.

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -  
 deem - er; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the  
 true faith. O Lord, have mer - cy.

**HYMN: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy**

*LSB 434, stz. 3*

3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,  
 Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.  
 All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
 Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

*A candle is extinguished.*

*Stand (you may also remain kneeling)*

## PRAYER

### Kyrie

Mark:10:47



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 957

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal-low - ed be Thy name,  
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as  
it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly  
bread; and for-give us our tres-pass - es as we for-give  
those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -  
to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.  
For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -  
ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with your spir - it.

**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, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Stand*

## ADORATION OF THE CROSS

- C** We adore You, | O Lord,\*  
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.  
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross\*  
joy has come into | all the world.  
God be merciful to us and | bless us,\*  
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy up- | on us.  
We adore You, | O Lord,\*  
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.  
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross\*  
joy has come into | all the world.

*The Paschal (Christ) Candle is carried out of the sanctuary.*

## STREPITUS

*The Paschal (Christ) Candle is carried out of the sanctuary.*

*The Paschal Candle is returned to the sanctuary, a reminder that Christ, the Light of the World,  
still shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome Him.*

*The service concludes in silence and no benediction is spoken because the Triduum (see comments at the end of the service)  
are seen as one service in three parts, with the benediction spoken at the end of the Easter Resurrection Celebration serving  
as the conclusion to the service begun this evening.*

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠

### Acknowledgments

Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers from Lutheran Service Book  
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## SOME FINAL THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PASTOR

Brothers and sisters,

From Holy Thursday, we move to Good Friday, the second of the three-day Triduum service. This is the most solemn day of the Church Year—when we recall the death that saves us. God gave us His name as His word and bond. The saving name of God is Jesus, the incarnate Son of God who walked obediently under the Law, delivered Himself up to the suffering and death of the cross, and made salvation available for all who wear that name by Baptism and faith.

Luther reminds us that the name of God was given to us to be the name we call upon in prayer and the name we raise in worship and praise. Jesus' death fulfills the commandment's promise and makes His name the source of all our hopes of redemption—but not for us only! He died for all that those who live should not live for themselves but for Him.

No doubt, this is perhaps one of the strangest Holy Weeks of living memory, where the Body of Christ is being asked to remain apart during the most important and most holy of seasons. We do so for love of neighbor, suffering for the sake of others, much as our Lord suffered in our place. As we continue to worship in this “virtual space,” I pray that today's streaming service is edifying for you and brings the light of Christ to shine brightly in your homes.

Lastly, while our physical gatherings are suspended, please remember that the work of Christ's church continues. Please consider mailing your tithes and offerings to the church's post office box:

Grace Evangelical-Lutheran Church  
PO Box 1530  
El Centro, CA 92244-1530.

Yours in Christ Jesus,  
+Pastor Griebenaw