

# WORDS FROM THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY

*Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA*

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

*Friday, March 30, 2018 + 7:00 p.m.*



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## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit gathers us together as the people of God*

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## **GATHERING MUSIC**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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 called *Tenebrae* in the last days in Holy Week.

The meaning of the word *Tenebrae* is darkness. The service began in silence and ended in almost total darkness, the lights being gradually extinguished as the service proceeded.

The **Extinguishing of the Candles** is to remind us of the events that led to the darkness which covered the earth on the first Good Friday. According to some authorities, it could signify the flight of the disciples.

In our service, one candle remains **burning** to symbolize the fact that Christ did not remain in the grave, but rose again. The forces of hell could not prevail against the Light of the World.

*Because of the dramatic nature of this service and the mood that it creates, no offering will be taken during the service. Offering plates will be located at the exits should you desire to make an offering as you leave.*

*This is the most solemn of worship services: Quiet and meditation should be maintained throughout.*

All those who are worshipping with us are requested, at the end of this service, to leave quietly in order to preserve the spirit of the worship.



# Reflection at the Foot of the Cross

Jesus says: O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed on you the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you. Answer me. I gave you my peace, which the world cannot give, but you draw the sword to strike in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you. Answer me. I washed your feet as a sign of my love and offered you my body and blood, but you scatter, you deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**





O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you. Answer me. I prayed that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide, casting lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you. Answer me. I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you. Answer me. I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me. I was naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
have mercy on us.**

**The Hymn**

*“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*

**ELW #338**

## Prayer

Let us pray . . .

**Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## A Word of Pardon

**Luke 23:27-34**

<sup>27</sup>A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. <sup>28</sup>But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' <sup>31</sup>For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

<sup>32</sup>Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

## The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

Vss. 1 &amp; 2



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,  
 2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;  
 3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;  
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.  
 but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
 re - sound-ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.  
 He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail  
 But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his  
 Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they  
 Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!  
 thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.  
 'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

## A Word of Assurance

Luke 23:39-43

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

### The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

## A Word of Compassion

John 19:25b-27

<sup>25b</sup>Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

### The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

## A Word of Anguish

Matthew 27:45-49

<sup>45</sup>From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>46</sup>And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>47</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." <sup>48</sup>At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. <sup>49</sup>But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

## The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

## The Hymn

*See Page 6*

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

vs 3 & 4

**LBW # 94**



## A Word of Need

**John 19:28-29**

<sup>28</sup>After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup>A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

## The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

## The Hymn

*"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"*

**ELW # 712**

## A Word of Victory

**John 19:30**

<sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished."

## The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**

## The Hymn

*"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*

ELW # 351

## A Word of Release

**Luke 23:44-46**

<sup>44</sup>It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup>while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup>Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

## The Instruction

God did not spare Christ Jesus;  
**But delivered Jesus for us all.**



## **Responsive Prayer: Suffrages**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**have mercy on us.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us always to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, holy 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for our bishops, including Bishops Elizabeth, and Craig, Assistants David, Sarah and Chrysanne, Minister of Music Cindy and Pastor Ken, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Let us pray for those in need.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**(sung) Oh, Draw Me, Lord (x3) And I'll run after You.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

*Silent prayer.*

**The Hymn**

*"Were You There?"*

**ELW #353**

**The Benediction and Sending**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Readers – Joe Longcor and Vickey Argo

Usher – Mark Anton