

WORDS FROM THE CROSS

GOOD FRIDAY

Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Friday, April 19, 2019 + 7:00 p.m.



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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us together as the people of God

GATHERING MUSIC *Were You There?* *Arr. by Billingsley/Braman*
Piano Duet: Cindy Olson and Jeanette Markwart

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.**

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**

²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For 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.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When 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. ³⁴Then 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.



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

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

^{25b}Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then 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

⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And 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?" ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸At 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. ⁴⁹But 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

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

ELW 337



A Word of Need

John 19:28-29

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A 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.

A Word of Victory

John 19:30

³⁰When 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

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then 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.



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 assembly sits or kneels in prayer

The PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

On this holy night, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy.

A brief silence.

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness of your church. Where there is division, grant healing. Where there is fracture, grant unity. Where there is indifference, grant passion. Lord, in your mercy,

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

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness of the creation. Put an end to destruction and renew our commitment to the fullness of life you intend for every living thing. Lord, in your mercy,

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

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness of the human family. Bring understanding and a spirit of cooperation to nations and communities in conflict. Dissolve distrust into understanding and transform disregard into profound care for one another. Lord, in your mercy,

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

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness of those who suffer in mind, body, and spirit. Feed those who hunger, give shelter to those without a home, heal the sick, and grant rest to the dying. Lord, in your mercy,

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

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness of this community. Help us seek not so much to be served, but to serve; not to be loved, but to love; not to be forgiven, but to forgive, for the sake of the gospel.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Lord, in your mercy,

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

By the cross of Christ, mend the brokenness within us. Cast out all fear of separation from you, and join us to the communion of saints who celebrate at your eternal banquet table. Lord, in your mercy,

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

Into the arms of your tender embrace, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who, on the cross, opened his arms to all: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Give peace in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Keep the nations under your care,
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness.

Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, an eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever.

Amen.

Grace Choir

“Were You There?”

Cindy Olson

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.