



Good Friday
April 7, 2023 7:00 pm
Service of Tenebrae

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.



St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church
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We gather in silence and prayer.

PRAYER OF THE DAY.

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.

+WORD+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52.13-53.12

The fourth servant poem promises ultimate vindication for the servant, who made his life an offering for sin. The servant pours himself out to death and is numbered with the transgressors, images that the early church saw as important keys for understanding the death of Jesus.

A reading from Isaiah.

- 13See, my servant shall prosper;
 he shall be exalted and lifted up,
 and shall be very high.
- 14Just as there were many who were astonished at him
 —so marred was his appearance, beyond human
semblance,
 and his form beyond that of mortals—
- 15so he shall startle many nations;
 kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
 and that which they had not heard they shall
contemplate.
- 53:1 Who has believed what we have heard?
 And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

2For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
3He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

4Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
5But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
6All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
8By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
9They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

10Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

11 Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many
righteous,

and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he poured out himself to death,

and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God

ANTHEM *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* ELW 803

arr. B. Hanson

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

SECOND READING Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

In his death Jesus functions as great high priest who experiences temptation and suffering in order that we would receive mercy and find grace, because he is the source of true salvation.

A Reading from Hebrews.

14 Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

5:7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; 9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Homily

HYMN: Were You There, ELW #353 v. 1- 2.

- 1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

GOSPEL JOHN 18.1-19.42

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

JOHN 18.1-11

HYMN: *There in God's Garden*, ELW #342 vs. 1- 2

- 1 There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.
- 2 Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!"
There on its branches see the scars of suff'ring;
see where the tendrils of our human selfhood
feed on its lifeblood.

John 18.12-18

John 18.19-27

Hymn "Ah, holy Jesus" ELW 349, vss. 1,2

- 1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.
- 2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

John 18.28-40

Hymn "Ah, holy Jesus" ELW 349, vs. 3

- 3 Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

John 19.1-16a

John 19.16b-25a

Hymn “Ah, holy Jesus” ELW 349, vss. 4,5

- 4 For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.
- 5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

The congregations invited to stand for the remainder of the reading.

John 19.25b-30

Silence

John 19.31-42

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn “Were You There” ELW 353, vss. 3-5

- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Prayers of Intercession

THE BIDDING PRAYER

The assembly sits. The assisting minister leads the invitations to prayer (the bids). Silence for prayer follows each bid. The presiding minister leads the prayers that conclude the silence.

...through Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

Choir Anthem *Adoramus te, Christe* T.Dubois from "*The Seven Last Words of Christ*"

*Adoramus te, Christe
et benedicimus tibi.*

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

*qui a per sanctam Crucem
tuam redimisti mundum*

*By your holy cross you
have redeemed the
world from sin.*

*adoramus te, Christe
et benedicimus tibi:
adoramus te, Christe!*

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

The assembly stands and faces the cross as it enters the church.

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

The dialogue is spoken a second time at the midpoint of the procession.

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

The dialogue is spoken a third time at the end of the procession.

Behold the life-giving cross,
on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

We Glory in Your Cross

**We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

May God be merciful and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

**We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

**We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

Brief Silence

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

All stand and sing, proclaiming the triumph of the cross.

Hymn "There in God's garden" ELW 342, vss. 1, 3-6

- 1 There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.
- 3 Thorns not its own
are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it,
our despite has choked it.
Yet, look! it lives!
its grief has not destroyed it
nor fire consumed it.
- 4 See how its branches
reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says,
"Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness,
give me all your sorrow,
I will give blessing."
- 5 This is my ending,
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.
- 6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

ADORATION OF THE CRUCIFIED

As you depart the worship space you are invited to come to the front of the church to reverence the cross. Reverencing the cross may include actions such as pausing before the cross, bowing, kneeling before it for prayer, or touching it.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Les Swenson, The Rev. Ed Duffy, Deacon Gwynne Hopko

Assistant Minister: The Rev. Ed Duffy

Lector: Jill Little

Readers for Passion Story: Pr. Swenson, Jill Little, Bob Cumiskey

Tech Team: Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Kyle Galvin, Noah Galvin

Ushers: Tina Beaudoin, Gerald Beaudoin, Carol Emond

Altar Guild: Denise Martin

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It Is Finished

Throughout his ministry Jesus turned things on their heads: the last became first, the poor were blessed, the blind could see. In parable and miracle Jesus brought a dominion that was set against the kingdoms of this world. In the circumstances of his death, he did away with the accepted structures of power and weakness, justice and retribution. Jesus' crucifixion was the ultimate manifestation of the paradox of the dominion of God: the king who only days before rode triumphantly into the royal city is crucified as a criminal. The Messiah is a suffering servant. The Son of God is willing to die so that we can live.

John's gospel tells the story of how God accomplished, in Jesus, the fulfillment of scriptural prophecy about the one who would bring God's people into reconciliation with God's own self. In the story of the passion, Jesus' inexorable journey toward the cross, which is the culmination of this prophecy, picks up speed. Then, with Jesus' dying breath, the journey is over. With the words "It is finished," Jesus' mission is complete. His passion and his suffering are finished; the centuries-long wait for the Messiah is finished. God's ultimate disruption of our efforts to save ourselves, and the astounding reversal of human expectations, is accomplished.

On this day, as we meditate on the consequences of God's sacrifice, the church proclaims the good news that the cross of Christ is not only necessary, but also sufficient for our salvation. With the command of Maundy Thursday lingering in our ears and hearts, Good Friday reminds us that the freedom to obey Jesus comes as a gift from God through the cross of Christ. At the cross, our old life of captivity to sin is finished, and our new life of discipleship begins.