

good FRIDAY



FRIDAY, APRIL 3

american
LUTHERAN CHURCH

american

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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volunteer

Select a Sunday.
Select a Role.

BE OF SERVICE.



OUR MISSION

We are people who worship Jesus Christ, reaching out to teach and share his love for people. We believe through the Holy Spirit, God has empowered us to worship Jesus Christ through music, Word and Sacrament; To Teach the gospel through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible Study and Youth Ministry. To share the gospel and reach out through Fellowship, Evangelism and Ministry to all in need.

JOIN US for Worship, Fellowship & Sunday School each week!

- * Worship begins @ 9 am * Fellowship @ 10 am
- * Sunday School @ 10 am (September - May)



Welcome to Worship

GOOD FRIDAY

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE *(We gather in silence as we continue our worship)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Hebrews 10:1-18)

NOTE - During this service:

Pastor reads the regular print.

Congregation reads the bold print.

Reader One reads the italic print.

When Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

‘See, God, I have come to do your will, for in the book it is written of Him these are offered according to the law.’

The first is abolished in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,”

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **Look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, Forever and ever. Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE PASSION ACCORDING TO LUKE

THE MOCKING AND TRIAL OF JESUS

Luke 22:63-23:12

¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.” ¹³So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

¹⁴When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him.

¹⁵He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread,

and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”²⁰ And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.²¹ But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table.²² For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!”²³ Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

They said, “If you are the Messiah, tell us.” He replied, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” All of them asked,

“Are you, then, the Son of God?”

He said to them, “You say that I am.” Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!” Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.” Then Pilate asked him,

“Are you the king of the Jews?”

HYMN ELW #347 Go to Dark Gethsemane (*verses 1 and 2*)

**JESUS
BEFORE
PILATE**

Luke 23:13-25

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”

¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!” ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed Them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²²

A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” 23 But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. 24 So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. 25 He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

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“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”

(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.” Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

“Crucify, crucify him!”

HYMN ELW #347 Go to Dark Gethsemane (*verses 3 and 4*)

**OBSERVERS
AND
PARTICIPANTS
IN THE
CRUCIFIXION**

Luke 23:26-31

26 As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. 28 But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 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.’ 30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ 31 For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

OFFERING Special Music: Were You There

AT THE CROSS Luke 23:32-43

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. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” 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.”

And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

“He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!”

HYMN ELW #341 Now Behold the Lamb (*verses 1 and 2*)

THE DEATH OF JESUS Luke 23:44-49

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. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts.

⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

HYMN ELW #341 Now Behold the Lamb (*verse 3*)

**THE BURIAL
OF JESUS**

Luke 23:50-56 (Joseph of Arimathea)

⁵⁰ Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, ⁵¹ had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. ⁵² This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³ Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rockhewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁵⁴ It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵ The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶ Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

STREPITUS Psalm 22

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.
³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
⁴In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.
⁵To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
⁶But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.
⁷All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
⁸“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”
⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

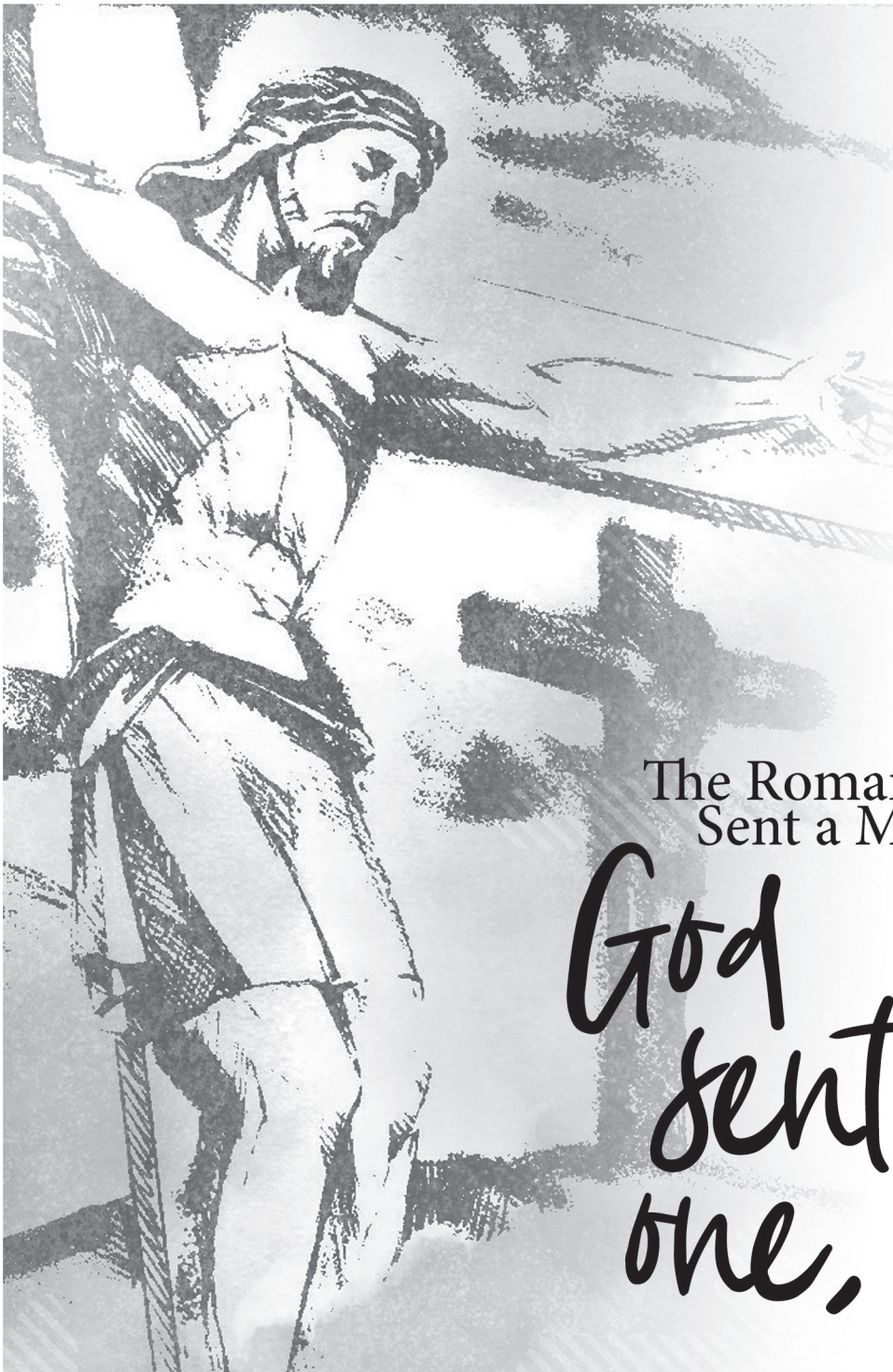
¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
¹²Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
¹⁴I am poured out like water; and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted with my breast.
¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death..
¹⁶For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled;
¹⁷I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!
²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him..
²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.
²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him..
³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,
³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

CLOSING HYMN ELW #616 Jesus, Remember Me

*Our closing hymn is sung
as a meditation. It will
be repeated without end
as our final prayer on
this Good Friday. Let the
words of this hymn rest
on your heart as you leave
worship today.*

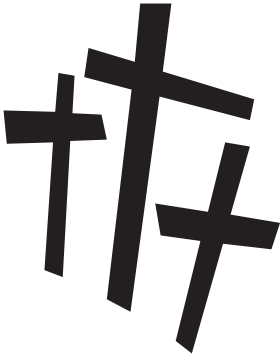
***Worshippers may come to the large cross to make a sign of reverence. Reverence of the cross may include actions such as pausing before the cross, bowing, kneeling before it for prayer, or touching it.*

(Congregation, when you are ready to leave, please leave the sanctuary in silence.)



The Romans
Sent a Message:

God
sent
one, too



The rulers of the Roman Empire wanted everyone under their power to understand clearly that it would be very costly to try to overthrow their government. They conceived the idea of crucifixion as a way of sending an unforgettable message to all people under their control. Death on a cross would be a slow, excruciatingly painful death. The cross would be put in a very public place so as many as possible would get the message: Don't even think of defying Roman rule!

That is why Christ was crucified on Golgotha hill close to a busy road where no passerby could miss the shocking scene. Christ was guilty of nothing. Yet his enemies hated him so much that they told Pilate, Rome's representative in Jerusalem, that Jesus was a danger to Roman rule. Christ's enemies said to Pilate, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend; everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar" (John 19:12). Pilate caved in to the clamor of the crowd and allowed Jesus to be crucified.

But those who saw to it that Jesus suffered death on the cross did not know that God had a message to send as well. God victoriously raised Christ from the dead! God touched the precious body of his Son and infused it with life, glorious, dynamic life, life in all of its fullness.

God turned the cross, the executioner's tool of death, into a dramatic symbol of victory. The empty cross and the empty tomb, along with the resurrected body of Christ, reveal God's victory over the worst deed humans might do — the assassination of the Holy.

That is why we put crosses everywhere: boldly, proudly, joyously, triumphantly. It is why we glory in the cross always. It stands eternally "towering o'er the wrecks of time" (John Bowring).

After the Resurrection, Jesus' friend, Peter, explained God's message to all of Christ's enemies with these bold and certain words: "This Jesus, you crucified and killed ... But God raised him up, having loosed the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it ... This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses Therefore know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified" (Acts 2:23-24; 32, 36). That is what Easter is all about. **All praise to the living Lord!**

holy week

american
LUTHERAN CHURCH



palm SUNDAY *WORSHIP &
PASSION READING

We will gather at the West Entrance for a processional into the sanctuary waving our palm leaves and singing as we go. We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

SUN
MAR
29 9 AM

THU
APR
02
7 PM

maundy THURSDAY *WORSHIP &
COMMUNION

Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another.



good FRIDAY *WORSHIP

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. We depart silently. We anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

FRI
APR
03 7 PM

SUN
APR
05
9 AM

easter SUNDAY *WORSHIP &
COMMUNION

Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven.

Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

