

Good Friday

April 18, 2025

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota



Good Friday

Tonight's liturgy is the second part of The Three Days (Triduum). Both life and death stand side by side tonight, Good Friday is a day of lament as well as a day of goodness. The love of God meets us in our suffering and death. 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 bring ourselves and the suffering world to the cross. We venerate the cross because it is the tree of life and is a sign of hope, love, and unending mercy. The Three Days culminates tomorrow night in the Easter Vigil at 6:30 p.m.

Prelude

*Meditation on Passion Chorale
Herzlich tut mich verlangen
(O Sacred Head Now Wounded)
String quartet*

David Bednall
J.S. Bach

Prayer of the Day

Stand.

First Reading

Isaiah 53:4-9, 12

Sit.

- ⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But 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.
- ⁶ All 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.
- ⁷ He 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.
- ⁸ By 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.

⁹ They 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.

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.

Following each reading: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

O God, Why Are You Silent

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Prayer

Photo Credit: *Palestinian Children photo by Ali Jadallah, Anadolu Agency*

Stand.

Second Reading

Sit. Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

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.

Choir

When Jesus Wept
Chancel Choir; Amber Stevenson, timpani

Gwyneth Walker

Prayer

Photo Credit: *Cardinal by Rich Hoeg, 365 Days of Birds*

Stand.

Third Reading

Sit.

John 19:16b-27

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Judeans." ²⁰Many of the Judeans read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Judeans said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Judeans,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Judeans.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

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.

Choir

When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son
Chancel Choir; David Mickens, violin

Zebulon Highben

*When we are tempted to deny your Son,
Because we fear the anger of the world,
And we are few who bear the insults hurled,
Your will, O God, be done.*

*When we are tempted to betray your Son,
Because he leads us in a harder way,
And makes demands we do not want to pay,
Your will, O God, be done.*

*When we forget the cross that held your Son,
And would avoid the burden of this life,
The cry for justice and an end to strife,
Your will, O God, be done.*

*When doubt obscures the victory of your Son,
And faith is weak and all resolve has fled,
Help us to know him risen from the dead;
Your will, O God, be done.*

Prayer

Stand.

Photo Credit: *Stephen Piña, Released, Photo by John Tlumacki/Boston Globe, Getty Images*

Fourth Reading

John 19:28-42

Sit.

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. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Judeans did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Judeans, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Hymn

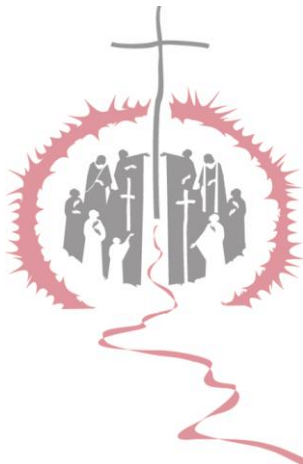
Ah, Holy Jesus

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Prayer

Stand.

Photo Credit: *Grief in Gaza, photo by Mohammed Salem, Reuters*



Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Offering

Sit.
The offering is an act of worship, responding with our gifts of talent, time, and money in thanksgiving for God's love made known in Christ. All have gifts that build up the body of Christ. Passing the plate is a sign of sharing in ministry together. The green papers in the bulletin are a way of participating if you give electronically.

Website



Text
833-608-0559

Venmo



Procession of the Cross

A large cross is carried in procession through the church and placed before the assembly.

The assembly stands and faces the cross as it is brought forward.

The following dialogue is sung three times.

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

Oh, come, let us | worship him.

Prayer at the Cross

Sit.

The assembly comes forward to place red ribbons on the cross.

The red ribbons represent the suffering we experience in our lives and in the world. As we bring our sorrow, failure, and lament to the cross, we carry it to the love of God, where ultimate and unconditional grace meets us.

Choir

O My People

Lundy/Walker

Chancel Choir, Leigh Frost and Peggy Summers, soloists

Adoration of the Cross

Stand.

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

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Hymn

Holy God, Holy and Glorious

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Worship Leaders

Thank you to all those who serve today.

Liturgists	Deacon Ashley Greenwood, Pastors Lois Pallmeyer, Jodi Houge, and Bradley E. Schmeling
Readers	Jon Young, Eric Baeverstad, Leif Carlson, Charlotte Russell
Ushers	John Barnicle, Karen Lansing, Lynne Nelson, Barbara Salava
Livestream	Thor Carlson, Augustus Huseby
Sound	Lila McNellis
Organ	Timothy Strand
Piano	Dennis Friesen-Carper
String Quartet	Brenda Mickens, violin; David Mickens, violin; Kristine Oberg, viola; Amy Hinrichs, cello

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