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## GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

### IT IS FINISHED

April 3, 2026

*Tenebrae, which is a Latin word meaning "shadows," has been observed in the church of Jesus Christ since the fourth century. Traditionally, the church continues to darken throughout the service, ending with the darkness of the Son of God lying in the tomb. On this Good Friday we marvel at the depth of suffering our Savior was willing to experience so that we might never have to experience the depth of suffering we truly deserve.*

#### TOLLING BELLS ANNOUNCE THE DEATH OF CHRIST

#### Go to Dark Gethsemane

*By R. Richards, Arr. N. Williams  
St. Paul's String Ensemble*

#### PSALM 24

#### Video

M In the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

M <sup>13</sup> See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

C <sup>14</sup> **Just as there were many who were appalled at him — his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness—**

M <sup>15</sup> so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him.

C **For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.**

*A brief silence*

#### JOHN 19:17-30

<sup>17</sup> Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). <sup>18</sup> There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

<sup>19</sup> Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. <sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. <sup>21</sup> The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

<sup>23</sup> When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

<sup>24</sup> "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it."

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

"They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment."

So this is what the soldiers did.

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

<sup>28</sup> Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. <sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## THE SEVEN EXTINGUISHERS

### INTRODUCTION

#### OPENING – BLUE HYMNAL 428, vv. 1-3

**1 O sacred head, now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded,  
With thorns your only crown,  
O sacred head, no glory  
Now from your face does shine;  
Yet, though despised and gory,  
I joy to call you mine.**

#### O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

**2 My burden in your passion,  
Lord, you have borne for me,  
For it was my transgression,  
My shame, on Calvary.  
I cast me down before you;  
Wrath is my rightful lot.  
Have mercy, I implore you;  
Redeemer, spurn me not!**

**3 What language shall I borrow To thank you, dearest Friend,  
For this, your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?  
Oh, make me yours forever, And keep me strong and true;  
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love for you.**

#### CANDLE ONE – REBELLIOUS HANDS

<sup>3</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

<sup>4</sup> "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup> "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. (Genesis 3:1-7, NIV)

## DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

### PRAYER

**Faithful Father,  
we confess that we have not trusted you.  
We have rebelled in thought, word, and deed.  
Have mercy on us for the sake of your obedient Son.  
Amen.**

*The first candle is extinguished.*

### HYMN – RED HYMNAL 117, vv. 1, 3, 5

**1 O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken  
That such sharp sentence should on you be  
spoken?  
Of what great crime have you to make  
confession  
What dark transgression?**

### O Dearest Jesus

**3 Whence come these sorrows, whence this  
mortal anguish?  
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must  
languish;  
Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you inherit,  
This I do merit.**

**5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;  
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;  
We forfeited our lives, yet are acquitted  
God is committed.**

### CANDLE TWO – WASHING OUR HANDS OF SIN

<sup>19</sup> While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him." <sup>20</sup> But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. <sup>21</sup> "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered.

<sup>22</sup> "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" <sup>23</sup> "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

<sup>24</sup> When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" <sup>25</sup> All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" <sup>26</sup> Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. (Matthew 27:19-26, NIV)

## DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

## PRAYER

**Righteous God,  
strip away our defenses and excuses.  
Lead us to true repentance and humble faith.  
Justify us by grace through Christ alone.  
Amen.**

*The second candle is extinguished.*

## ANTHEM

**Lead Me To The Cross**  
*By B. Fraser and Arr. D. Galbraith*  
*Good Friday Ensemble*

## CANDLE THREE – HANDS THAT WON'T LET GO

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. (Romans 1:21–25, NIV).

## DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION

### PRAYER

**Jealous yet merciful God,  
we confess our divided hearts.  
Forgive our misplaced loves.  
Create in us hearts that fear, love, and trust in you above all things.  
Amen.**

*The third candle is extinguished.*

## HYMN – RED HYMNAL 127, vv. 1-3

**1 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted,  
See him dying on the tree!  
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected;  
Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he.  
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son,  
yet David's Lord;  
Proofs I see sufficient of it:  
'Tis the true and faithful Word.**

## Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

**2 Tell me, as you hear him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like his?  
Friends through fear his cause disowning,  
Foes insulting his distress,  
Many hands were raised to wound him,  
None would intervene to save,  
But the deepest stroke that pierced him Was  
the stroke that justice gave.**

**3 If you think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great,  
Here you see its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed; See who bears the awful load --  
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.**

**CANDLE FOUR – HANDS THAT COVER OUR EYES TO THE TRUTH**

*<sup>63</sup> The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. <sup>64</sup> They blindfolded him and demanded, "Prophesy! Who hit you?" <sup>65</sup> And they said many other insulting things to him. (Luke 22:63–65).*

**DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION**

**PRAYER**

**Light of the world,  
open our eyes to see ourselves truthfully  
and the good you are working in our lives more clearly.  
Dispel our darkness through the cross of Christ.  
Amen.**

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

**HYMN – RED HYMNAL 139, vv. 1, 2, 4**

**1 Jesus, in your dying woes, Even while your  
lifeblood flows,  
Craving pardon for your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus!**

**Jesus, in Your Dying Woes**

**2 Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near  
you dies,  
Promising him paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus!**

**4 Jesus, plunged in depths unknown With our evil foe alone,  
While no light from heav'n is shown: Hear us, holy Jesus!**

**CANDLE FIVE – VIOLENT HANDS**

*<sup>16</sup> The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. <sup>17</sup> They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. <sup>18</sup> And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup> Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. <sup>20</sup> And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. (Mark 15:16–20, NIV)*

**DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION**

**PRAYER**

**Prince of Peace,  
we confess our desire for power and control.  
Forgive the harm we have done and the violence we excuse.  
Teach us the way of the cross.  
Amen.**

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

**HYMN – RED HYMNAL 125, vv. 1, 3, 4**

**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.

**When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

**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 tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

**CANDLE SIX – HAND THAT HIDES OUR SHAME**

<sup>45</sup> From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. <sup>46</sup> About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). (Matthew 27:45–46, NIV)

**DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION**

**PRAYER**

**Crucified Savior,  
when shame and loneliness overwhelm us,  
draw us to your cross.  
Remind us that you were forsaken in our place.  
Amen.**

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

**HYMN – RED HYMNAL 119, vv. 1-2**

**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?**

**Were You There**

**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?**

**CANDLE SEVEN – PIERCED HANDS**

<sup>28</sup> Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. <sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:28–30, NIV).

**DEVOTIONAL REFLECTION**

## PRAYER

**Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world.  
Have mercy on us.  
Grant us rest in your finished work.  
Amen.**

*The seventh candle is extinguished.*

## ANTHEM

**Hands of Jesus**  
By Crowder  
Good Friday Ensemble

## CONCLUSION – THE BURIAL OF JESUS

<sup>38</sup> Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. <sup>39</sup> He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. <sup>40</sup> Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. <sup>41</sup> At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. <sup>42</sup> Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. (John 19:38–42 NIV)

*Removal of the Christ Candle*

*Strepitus*

*Return of the Christ Candle*

## LORD'S PRAYER *(whispered)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## TOLLING BELLS ANNOUNCE THE DEATH OF CHRIST

*The congregation departs in silence.*

*You are invited to remain in the semidarkness of the sanctuary and meditate on how the Savior has overcome the darkness for you. If you would like to go on the altar to view the special artwork, you may do so. Then come back on Easter Eve at 5:00 pm or Easter morning at 8:00, 9:30, or 11:00 am to celebrate that Jesus has risen, just as he said it would.*

## Welcome to St. Paul's!

St. Paul's is a family of believers in Jesus Christ who love each other and our community. Stop by the Welcome Center in the church entry for information about any of our ministries. An attendant will be there to answer your questions.

**Kids Are Welcome in Worship:** We encourage parents to bring their children into worship. From little on, children do learn in worship. We welcome some of the disruption children may bring. It is a sign of life in God's Church. We ask that the back pews in the church be reserved for parents with small children.

**For Small Children:** There is a "Mother's Room" where parents can go to quiet their children during the worship service. You can see and hear the service from there. This room is to your right as you leave the center doors of the sanctuary.

**Restrooms:** Restrooms are to the left as you leave the sanctuary. There are also handicapped/family restrooms to the right as you leave the sanctuary.

**Special Needs:** Large-print worship folders are available. Please ask an usher for assistance. There is an audio loop system installed on the pulpit side (left side) of the sanctuary to be used with hearing aids.

### Sunday Morning Children's Ministry

Kids Club is our vibrant ministry for youth 3K through grade 5. All age levels meet in our school classrooms 9:00 – 10:00 am. Kids Club resumes on Sunday, April 12. New participants are always welcome. Register any Sunday morning in the Trinity Café, directly across the parking lot from the church, or visit [stpaulmuskego.org/kidsclub](http://stpaulmuskego.org/kidsclub).

### Easter Traditional Services, April 4 and 5

Saturday at 5:00 pm

Sunday at 8:00, 9:30 (livestreamed), and 11:00 am

### Easter Bridge Services, April 5

9:00 and 10:30 am (livestreamed) – No Bridge Communion

### Good Friday Ensemble

*Nicole Greanya, Piano*

*Dave Lemke, Conductor*

*St. Paul's String Ensemble – Emma Bonack, Director*

*St. Paul's Woodwind Ensemble – Judy Schmidt, Director*

*Mike Westendorf, Guitar and Vocals*

*Emma Bonack, Piano and Vocals*

*Katlyn Kelly, Vocals*

*Heidi Schuh, Cello Violin*

### **ST. PAUL'S MINISTERIAL STAFF**

Office (414) 422-0320

|                       |          |  |                                      |
|-----------------------|----------|--|--------------------------------------|
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| Mr. Randy Fink        | Ext. 120 | <a href="mailto:rfink@stpaulmuskego.org">rfink@stpaulmuskego.org</a>         | Business Administrator               |
| Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons  | Ext. 118 | <a href="mailto:sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org">sfitzsimmons@stpmuskego.org</a> | Principal                            |
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