

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.



We gather in silence.

Worshippers are invited to ponder the Scripture readings for the evening.

Theme of the Day

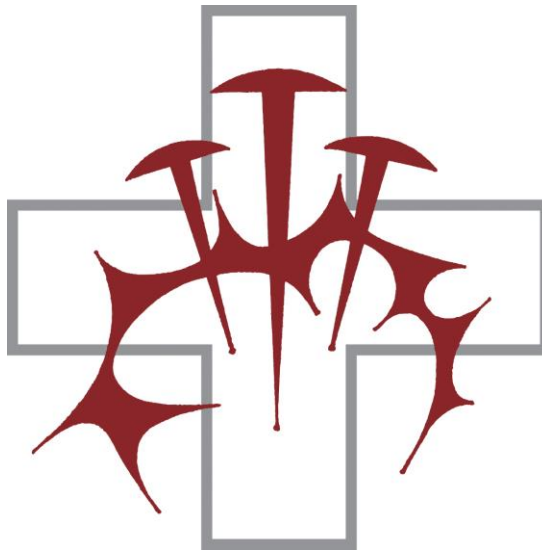
The Service of Darkness recalls the hours Jesus spent on the cross, when even the sun grew dim.

Candles are extinguished to remind us of the darkness of that day and our sinful world.

The removal of the Christ Candle near the end of the service signifies the death of Jesus.

The loud sound—the strepitus—represents the closing of the tomb.

Today, we remember Jesus' crucifixion. And yet, in the midst of the sadness, we have hope, for Jesus will rise. Death is not the end of Jesus, nor is it the end of us. We depart in confidence, knowing that the light of Easter Sunday will scatter the darkness of Good Friday.



Are You a Guest? *Welcome! We are so glad to have you. Have a need? See an usher at the entry doors.*

Want to find out more about our church or school? Include your contact info in the red connection pad.

Please Note: Communion will be offered in service today. We encourage you to see more details on p. 9.

Red Connection Pads

We encourage all in attendance to add your name to the red connection pad at the end of your row or record your attendance online using clcs.org/attendance or the QR code to the right.



A Note on Offerings

In thanksgiving for God's many gifts, we offer to God what He has first given to us: the first and the best of our time, our talents, and our financial gifts.

Donation boxes are located at each entry door or if you would like to contribute online, with either a onetime or ongoing gift, please use clcs.org/give or the QR code to the left.

Opening Hymn

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

LSB 436

(Please stand on verse 1 as the processional cross enters)



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

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P = Pastor; L = Worship Leader; C = Congregation

Opening Sentences

Philippians 2; 1 John 2; Isaiah 53

L: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

C: **He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**

L: We have an advocate with the Father;

C: **Jesus Christ, the righteous one!**

L: He was delivered up to death;

C: **He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

L: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

C: **yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

Hymn

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

LSB 451

1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af-flict-ed, See Him dy-ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev-er grief like
tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re-ject-ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis-own-ing, Foes in -
soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long-ex-pect-ed
sult-ing His dis-tress; Man-y hands were raised to
Proph-et, Da-vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in-ter-vene to save; But the
see suf-fi-cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith-ful Word.
deep-est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus-tice gave.

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Psalm of Confession & Assurance of Forgiveness

Based on Psalm 38 & Isaiah 53

- L: Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy and solemn day, we are confronted with the serious nature of our sin, which made this day necessary.
Let us therefore make confession of our sins, using the words of King David
- C: **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. [Amen.]**
- L: God is merciful. Even before we were aware of the burden of our sin, God planned our salvation. He sent His only-begotten Son into this world and made Him to be sin for us. For it was our sin that He bore to Calvary's cross. It was the penalty for our sin that He endured. And it was because of the gift of His life that we are forgiven. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

3 Ye who think of sin but lightly
 Nor suppose the evil great
 Here may view 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.

4 Here we have a firm foundation,
 Here the refuge of the lost:
 Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
 Is the name of which we boast;
 Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
 Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
 None shall ever be confounded
 Who on Him their hope have built.

Homily

† SERVICE OF DARKNESS †

Based on the Words Spoken by Our Lord from the Cross

The First Word from the Cross

Luke 23:32-38

P: ³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide His garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!"³⁶ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Prayer

Based on Hebrews 12

P: Heavenly Father, we stand in awe of Your Son who forgave those gathered at the cross.

C: Teach us to forgive those who hurt us in the same way.

P: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,

C: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Amen.

Hymn

“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”

LSB 439



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
 2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
 3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
 With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
 It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
 They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
 Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
 cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
 her - it, This I do mer - it.

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(The First Candle Is Extinguished)

TTT

The Second Word from the Cross

Luke 23:39-43

L: ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, “Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² And he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” ⁴³ And He said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

Prayer

L: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, guide and direct us into Your paradise which awaits us,
 C: **And reveal Your perfect peace to us.**
 L: Help us to cling every day to the life You have given us,
 C: **And by Your Holy Spirit, help us to glorify You in all we do. Amen.**

Special Music

“Wondrous Love”

Calvary Chorale

(The Second Candle Is Extinguished)

TTT

The Third Word from the Cross

John 19:25-27

P: ²⁵ Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Prayer

P: Almighty Father, help us learn from our Lord's example to love others as He has loved us.

C: **While we often see the worst in others and in ourselves, help us to rejoice in the forgiveness and acceptance we receive from You.**

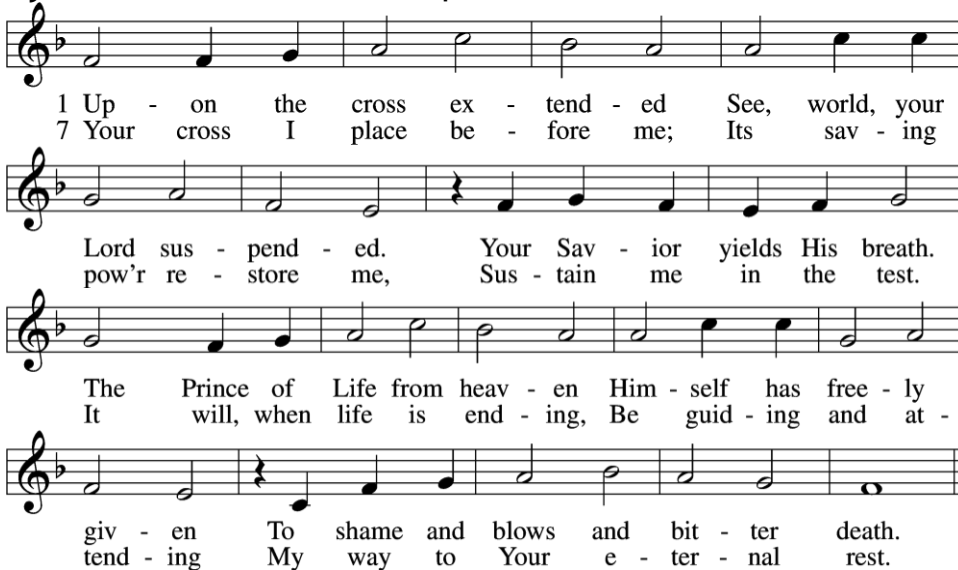
P: Encourage us to strive by the power of the Holy Spirit toward greater unity in our own families

C: **and toward unity in the family of believers in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

Hymn

"Upon the Cross Extended"

LSB 453



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
7 Your cross I place be - fore me; Its sav - ing
Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
pow'r re - store me, Sus - tain me in the test.
The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
It will, when life is end - ing, Be guid - ing and at -
giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
tend - ing My way to Your e - ter - nal rest.

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(The Third Candle Is Extinguished. The Sanctuary Lighting is partially dimmed.)

TTT

The Fourth Word from the Cross

Matthew 27:45-46

- L: ⁴⁵ Now, from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.
⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

Prayer

- L: Lord, we would never forsake You,
C: **But in the busyness of our lives, we sometimes forget You.**
L: We would never condemn You, shouting “crucify!”
C: **Yet we have allowed evil to be done in Your name.**
L: We would never deny You, saying, “I do not know the man!”
C: **But we have avoided opportunities to witness to Your love and to share the good news of salvation in Your name. Forgive us, O Lord. Amen.**

Hymn

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

LSB 450



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.

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(The Fourth Candle Is Extinguished)

TTT

The Fifth Word from the Cross

John 19:28-29

P: ²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to His mouth.

Prayer

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, sometimes we forget the true anguish You suffered.

C: **We often feel sorry for ourselves, without realizing what You suffered on our behalf.**

P: Having given Your life on our behalf, empower us to live boldly for You.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

LSB 425

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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. | 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! |
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- 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?

(The Fifth Candle Is Extinguished)

TTT

The Sixth Word from the Cross *Luke 23:44-46a*

L: ⁴⁴ It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!"...

Prayer

L: Teach our hearts, O Lord, that when our last hour comes, we may confidently commit ourselves into Your loving arms. Lead us, Lord, that we may follow You through the valley of the shadow of death into the place prepared for us at Your throne in Paradise.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“Behold the Savior of Mankind”

Tune LSB 437

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Behold the Savior of mankind
Nailed to the shameful tree!
How vast the love that him inclined
To bleed and die for thee! | 2. 'Tis done! the precious ransom's paid;
Receive my soul, he cries;
See where he bows his sacred head!
He bows his head and dies. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

(The Sixth Candle Is Extinguished)

TTT

The Seventh Word from the Cross *(Please stand)*

John 19:30

P: ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished,” and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, we give You thanks that You finished the course set by the Father, that leads to our salvation. Strengthen us to remain faithful unto death, that we may receive the crown of life. Lead and guide us, O Lord, beyond the darkness of evil into the light of Your grace. Ensure us that we will not wander in the darkness of sin forever, but on that day of your return, we will see You in Your glorious light.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“O Perfect Life of Love”

LSB 452



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul
5 In per - fect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.
O all - a - ton - ing Sac - ri - fice, I cling by faith to Thee.

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(The Seventh Candle is Extinguished)

TTT

The Burial of Jesus

John 19:38-42

L:³⁸ After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body.³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight.⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Hymn

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430

I My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

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Removal of the Christ Candle

*(The lights are completely dimmed, as the Light of Christ is removed.
Jesus—the author of life—was laid into the tomb and the darkness of death.)*

Closing of the Tomb

(“Strepitus” - A loud noise is heard symbolizing the closing of the tomb.)

TTT

Hymn

"Were You There"

LSB 456

3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you
there when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh . . .
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

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Lord's Prayer *(whispered softly by all)*

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.

Hymn

"Abide with Me"

LSB 878

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.

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(We depart in silence, awaiting the joyous songs of Easter morning.)

† Serving Our Lord and His People †

Preacher: Pastor Kurt Ebert
Organist: Tony Spelde
Musicians: Calvary Chorale
Projectionist: Steve Bardonner
Press Creator: Steve Bardonner

TTT



Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 19th at 5:30 p.m.

Bridges the gap between the darkness of Good Friday and the joy of Christ's resurrection.

Easter Sunday, April 20th at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Both services provide an opportunity to celebrate the joy of the resurrection of Jesus. Special music will be provided by our choir and handbells at the 8:00 a.m. service and our contemporary band at the 10:45 a.m. service.

Easter Breakfast from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Food service takes place in the cafeteria with seating in the gym. A freewill offering will take place to support our youth attending the LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA this summer.

