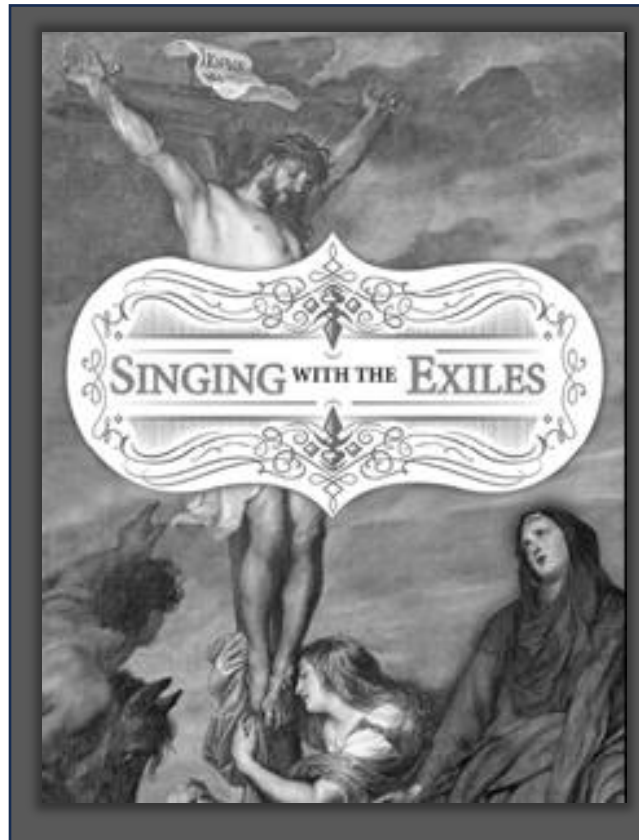


# The Order of Worship for **GOOD FRIDAY**

“All”

April 18, 2025



There can be no doubt—Christ had it all. He is the Prince of Glory. Our Savior also gave it all. Isaiah 53 tell us He was stricken, smitten, afflicted, pierced, crushed, punished, led like a Lamb to the slaughter, cut off from the land of the living, and assigned a grave with the wicked. And Jesus delivers it all. The absolution declares it. The font seals it. The table celebrates it.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS-LCMS

*Welcoming all to walk together  
toward abundant life in Christ.*

The “Order of Tenebrae” is an early Christian order of worship traditionally utilized in the observance of Good Friday. “Tenebrae” is Latin for “darkness” or “in the shadows,” and the service is characterized by the gradual removal of light from the sanctuary as the scriptural accounts approach the moment of the death of our Lord. It is not to be considered a funeral service for Jesus, but rather a time of repentance as we consider His Passion for us.

As the last candle is removed, noting the death of the Savior, a loud sound will be heard. This represents that point in human history when the tomb was closed. Following the silent prayer at the close of the service, worshipers will depart in silence. We ask that there be no speaking until you have left the church grounds. We retire to our homes in contemplation of the meaning of Christ’s death for us and in the certain hope of the Easter victory soon to be celebrated

As Christ’s crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday, altar paraments, the pastor’s and acolytes’ cassocks, and the shrouds are black, symbolizing humiliation, mourning, and death.

The Tenebrae (darkness) Service picks up where the Maundy Thursday Service left off. The church appears as it did after the Stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday. The worship setting is once again darkened, and we shudder in fear of what has been done to the Son of God. All creation suffered darkness from the sixth hour to the ninth hour the day we crucified our Lord.

There is no musical prelude as the sound of music may detract our concentration from the somber meditation on Christ’s work this day. This day the focal point is the cross, where Messiah was sacrificed as the unblemished Passover Lamb.

## **INVOCATION**

P     The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)  
C     **Amen.**

## **SILENT PROCESSIONAL**

✙ Please follow the cross as it makes its way from the narthex to the chancel. ✙

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*(Selected verses from Psalm 22)*

P My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?  
Why are You so far from saving me, so far from the  
words of my groaning?

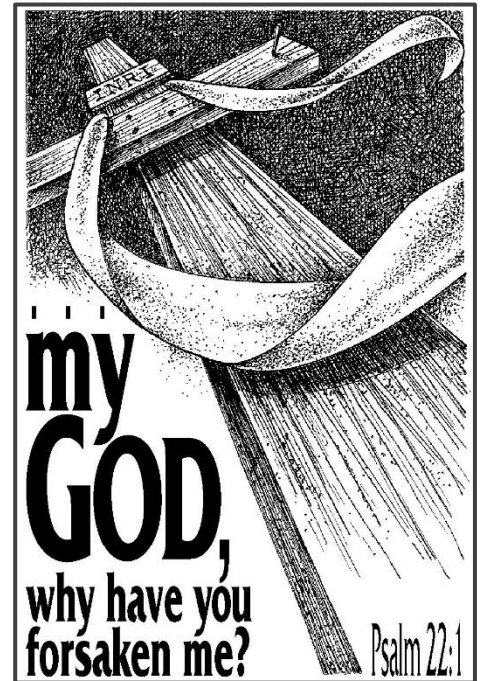
C **O my God, I cry out by day, but You do not  
answer, by night, but I find no rest.**

P Yet You are enthroned as the Holy One; You are  
the praise of Israel.

C **In You our fathers put their trust; they trusted  
and You delivered them.**

P They cried to You and were saved; in You they  
trusted and were not disappointed.

C **But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men  
and despised by the people.**



P All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

C **"He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let Him deliver him, since  
he delights in Him."**

P Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

C **Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.**

P Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.

C **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has  
turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

P My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my  
mouth; You lay me in the dust of death.

C **Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have  
pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones; people stare and  
gloat over me.**

P They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

C **But You, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.**

P Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.  
 C **Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.**

P I will declare Your Name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise You.

## OPENING HYMN

O Perfect Life of Love

LSB 452 sts. 1–2

1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,  
 2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;  
 All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.  
 His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, alt.

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

Text and tune: Public domain

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalms 130*

P God of all mercy,  
 C **We confess that we have sinned against You, opposing Your will in our lives.  
 Too often like Judas, we chafe at Your teaching and betray You.**

P Too often like Peter, we stand at a distance and deny You.

C **With the high priests, we question and doubt You.**

P With Pilate, we give up, and wash our hands of You.

C **With the crowd, we favor Barabbas, and watch the Savior die.**

P This dark day reminds us how Christ has borne our infirmities and been crushed by our transgressions.

C **We repent of the evil within us, the evil that enslaves us and the evil we have done. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in Your love and serve only Your will. Amen.**

*Silence for private confession of sins*

P Almighty God has had mercy on you through Christ's cross and spear, His thorns and nails, His sweat and blood. You are fully and forever forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

4. And on His thorn-crowned head  
And on His sinless soul  
Our sins in all their guilt were laid  
That He might make us whole.



**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you,  
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, through Your agony and sweat, scourging and suffering, crying and dying, You take away the sin of the world. Lead us to the cross where, with repentant hearts, we may humbly receive the gifts of Your redeeming love; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C **Amen**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS HAVE AS THEIR THEME  
“GOD’S GIVES ALL”**

**OLD TESTAMENT**

*Isaiah 52:13–53:12*

<sup>13</sup> Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.  
<sup>14</sup> As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind— <sup>15</sup> so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. <sup>1</sup> Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For 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, and no beauty that we should desire him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. <sup>4</sup> Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth;

like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. <sup>8</sup> By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? <sup>9</sup> And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. <sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. <sup>11</sup> Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON HYMN

Lamb Of God

LSB 550

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Your only Son, no sin to hide,<br/>But You have sent Him from Your<br/>side<br/>To walk upon this guilty sod,<br/>And to become the Lamb of God.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>2. Your Gift of love they crucified,<br/>They laughed and scorned Him as He<br/>died:<br/>The humble King they named a<br/>fraud,<br/>And sacrificed the Lamb of God.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |
|---|---|

## REFRAIN

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O wash me in His precious blood,  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

3. I was so lost, I should have died,  
But You have brought me to Your  
side  
To be led by Your staff and rod,  
And to be called a lamb of God.  
*Refrain*

Text: Twila Paris, 1958

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SERMON

“All”

Pastor Menk

OFFERING (7PM)

“Deep Were His Wounds” – Vocal Choir

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Almighty God, You revealed Your glory to the world through Jesus Christ, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. Root us firmly in Your Word. Lead us to bear witness to the world of Your love through our good deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Heavenly Father, on this day we remember the sacrifice of Your Son for the sins of the world. We grieve His suffering and death. We feel shame for our sins. We are thankful we are forgiven. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Gracious Jesus, as we consider the agony of your own mother Mary as she watched Your torture and death, we grieve with all the parents who have had to bury a child. Provide comfort and healing to all who mourn losses in this life. Give consolation and strength to all who experience suffering and sorrow in this world, that those who have died with faith in You will experience Your Easter joy. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- P Almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We pray that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance, that they may have the same love and be of one heart and mind with us and Your church. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C **hear our prayer. Amen.**

## EXPLANATION OF TENEBRAE

*The word “Tenebrae” is the Latin term for “darkness.” The purpose of this is to impress upon us the terrible reality of sin – the sin which caused our Savior to die for us.*

## T THE TENEBRAE SERVICE T

HYMN (1PM)

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

LSB 440

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;  
With your Spirit me endow for such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish  
Of your suffering, pain, and death that I may not perish.

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*The Word of Forgiveness*

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**Luke 23:33–38**

<sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>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!” <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

**THE FIRST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED****HYMN**

Go to Dark Gethsemane

*LSB 436*

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter’s pow’r;  
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;  
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

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*The Word of Promise*

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**Luke 23:39–43**

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

**THE SECOND CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED**



Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my Sov'reign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done he groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!

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*The Word of Love***John 19:25–27**

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

**THE THIRD CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED**

Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Who, thy-self for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe:  
Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.

Thou, ah! thou, has taken on thee bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon thee, O thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst thou my soul deliver from the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.

Heartless scoffers did surround thee, treating thee with shameful scorn  
And with piercing thorns they crowned thee.  
All disgrace thou, Lord, has borne,  
That as thine thou mightest own me and with heav'nly glory crown me.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, dearest Jesus, unto thee.

<sup>25</sup>And it was the third hour when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup>And the inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” <sup>27</sup>And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>29</sup>And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, <sup>30</sup>save yourself, and come down from the cross!” <sup>31</sup>So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup>Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.



<sup>33</sup>And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. <sup>34</sup>And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” <sup>35</sup>And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.”

## **THE FOURTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED**

### **HYMN**

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

*LSB 423*

Do we pass that cross unheeding,  
Breathing no repentant vow,  
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,  
See Your thorn-encircled brow?  
Yet Your sinless death has brought us  
Life eternal, peace, and rest;  
Only what Your grace has taught us  
Calms the sinner’s deep distress.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.  
Text: Public domain

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” <sup>29</sup>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.

## THE FIFTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

### HYMN

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

*LSB 451 sts. 1–3*

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.

Tell me, ye who 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.

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.

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*The Word of Victory*

**John 19:30**

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<sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## THE SIXTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

1. Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
  2. Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
  3. Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!
- Public domain

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***The Word of Trust***
**Luke 23:44–47**


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<sup>44</sup>It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, <sup>45</sup>while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup>Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. <sup>47</sup>Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"

**THE SEVENTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED**
**SPECIAL MUSIC**     He Has Forgiven Me

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**P**     Gracious Jesus, Our Lord and our God, at this hour You bore our sins in Your body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death and grant to us, Your servants, with all others who devoutly remember Your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through Your grace, eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and Holy Spirit, You live and reign, God forever.

**C**     Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER**     (*Spoken together in a whisper*)

### **THE TOMB**

The Christ candle is taken out of the sanctuary  
just as our Lord's body was taken away  
and placed in a grave provided by Joseph of Arimathea.

### **THE CLOSING OF THE GOSPEL BOOK**

The sound of a loud noise signifies that with the sealed tomb,  
the meaning of the cross is fulfilled, the sacrifice is complete,  
and the Scriptures are fulfilled.

### **THE CHRIST CANDLE**

The Christ candle is returned to the altar to remind us that the death of Christ  
is NOT the end of His ministry and is symbolic of the eternal light of His love for us.

### **THE DEPARTURE**

After the Christ candle returns to the altar and a time of silent prayer and meditation, the  
congregation leaves the sanctuary and the building silently contemplating the death of Christ  
and looking forward to resurrection victory.

### **SILENT PRAYER**

The Lamb, the Lamb, he takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, he gives me his own righteousness.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.



### **EASTER WORSHIP**

Sunday at 7:15am (Cross Monument)

9:00am & 10:30am (Church Sanctuary)

*\*10:30am will stream live online*

***Please join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord***