

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LINCOLN - GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
A Tenebrae Service on the Seven Last Words of Christ
29 March 2024

Gathering: **All Gather in Silence**

Special Music: Deanna Muth

WORDS OF WELCOME (Isaiah 53:1-3)

- P: The LORD be with you.
C: **And also with you.**
P: We gather here to worship God.
C: **We gather to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us and to thank God for his love and his mercy.**
A: **Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?**
C: **For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground;**
P: He had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
C: **He was despised and rejected by others;**
A: **A man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity**
C: **And as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.**

SPECIAL HYMN – “10,000 Angels”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 53:4-6, 9)

- A: **Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;**
C: **yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.**
A: **But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;**
C: **upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.**
A: **All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,**
C: **and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**
A: **They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,**
C: **although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.**

HYMN #107 – “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

The first system of music features a treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The melody is composed of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line consists of chords and single notes. The lyrics are numbered 1, 2, and 3, corresponding to the three parts of the hymn.

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe the shadow of a mighty rock and the suffering of Jesus.

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

The third system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe a home in a wilderness and the wonders confessed by the singer.

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

The fourth system concludes the melody and bass line. The lyrics describe the burning heat and burdens of the day, and the wonder of Jesus' love and the singer's sinfulness.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

- P: Let us pray – Merciful God,
C: **As we remember how your son Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross, how seven times he spoke, seven words of love, we ask you to bless our hearing.**
P: Father, as we recall how all three hours His silence cried for mercy on the souls of all, we ask you to help us to understand the mystery of your love, and make us into a people who are ever more worthy of it.
C: **Amen.**

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

- A: **Let us remember Jesus:**
who, though rich, became poor and dwelt among us,
who was mighty indeed, healing the sick and the troubled,
who, as a teacher to his disciples, was their companion and servant.
C: **May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done for us.**
A: **Let us remember Jesus:**
who prayed for the forgiveness of those who rejected him
and for the perfecting of those who received him,
who loved all people, and prayed for them,
even if they denied and rejected him
who hated sin because he knew the cost of pride and selfishness,
of cruelty and hatred, both to people and to God.
C: **May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done for us.**
A: **Let us remember Jesus:**
who humbled himself, obedient unto the cross.
God has exalted him who has redeemed
us from the bondage of sin and given us new freedom.
C: **May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done and continues to do for us.**

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:34

A: *“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”*

P: Reflective Reading: Psalm 51:1-14

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 alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

P: Prayer on the First Word from the Cross

Almighty God, to whom your crucified Son prayed for the forgiveness of those who did not know what they were doing, grant that we, too, may be included in that prayer. Whether we sin out of ignorance or intention, be merciful to us and grant us your acceptance and peace: in the name of Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior.

C: Amen.

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for our sins.*

C: You suffered and died that we might be forgiven.

Hymn #123 – “Ah, Holy Jesus”

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that man to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for man's a - tone - ment,
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y

by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed,
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

A: *“Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in Paradise.”*

P: Reflective Reading: John 14:1-6

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

P: Prayer on the Second Word from the Cross

O Lord Jesus Christ, in your agony you showed compassion to a man who recognized his sinfulness and your holiness. You gave him the gift of life eternal. We thank you for that same indescribable gift you give to us. Help us to show such compassion to the lost so that they may too dwell in paradise with you. In your holy name we pray,

C: **Amen.**

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: **You suffered and died that we might live in the hope of eternal life.**

Hymn #309 – “Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:26-27

A: *When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."*

P: Reflective Reading: Mark 3:31-35

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

P: Prayer on the Third Word from the Cross

O Blessed Savior, who in your hours of greatest suffering expressed compassion for your mother and made arrangements for her care, grant that we who seek to follow your example may show our concern for the needs of others, reaching out to provide for those who suffer in our human family. Hear this our prayer for your mercy's sake.

C: Amen.

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: You suffered and died that we might be united in our faith in you.

Hymn #113 – “Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes”

113

Jesus, in Thy Dying Woes

1 Je - sus, in thy dy - ing woes, E - ven while thy life - blood flows,
2 Sav - ior, for our par - don sue When our sins thy pangs re - new,
3 Oh, may we, who mer - cy need, Be like thee in heart and deed,

Crav - ing par - don for thy foes:
For we know not what we do: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.
When with wrong our spir - its bleed:

THE FOURTH WORD

Mark 15:33-34

A: *When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'*

P: Reflective Reading: Psalm 22:1-11

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

“Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver— let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

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

P: Prayer on the Fourth Word from the Cross

Almighty God, who forsook your Son upon the cross showing the world your judgment upon human sin and guilt, grant us, upon hearing his cry, the grace to know and believe that we will never be forsaken, that he is present with us even to the end of the age. For the sake of Jesus Christ who bore our sins on the cross.

C: **Amen.**

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: **You suffered and died that we will never be abandoned or forsaken.**

Hymn “The Old Rugged Cross”

The Old Rugged Cross

CROSS AND COMFORT

Words: George Bennard, 1913. Music and Setting: 'The Old Rugged Cross' George Bennard, 1913.
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♩ = 140

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross, The em - blem
2. O that old rug - ged cross, so des - pised by the world, Has a won - drous
3. In that old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine, A won - -
4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true; Its shame and

of suff'r - ing and shame; And I love that old cross where the dear - est
a - trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry
drous beau - ty I see, For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered
re - proach glad - ly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my home far

and best For a world of lost sin - ners was slain. So I'll
a - bove To bear it to dark Cal - va - - ry.
and died, To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
a - way, Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, Till my tro - phies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rug - ged cross, And ex - change it some day for a crown.

A: *After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), 'I am thirsty.'*

P: Reflective Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

P: Prayer on the Fifth Word from the Cross

O blessed Savior, whose lips were dry and whose throat was parched, grant us the water of life that we who thirst after righteousness may find it quenched by your love and mercy, leading us to bring this same relief to others.

C: **Amen.**

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: **You suffered and died that we might have our thirst for grace and mercy quenched.**

Hymn #482 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all!

THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:29-30

A: *A 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. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

P: Reflective Reading: Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing

cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P: Prayer on the Sixth Word from the Cross

O Lord Jesus Christ, who finished the work that you were sent to do, enable us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful to our call. Grant us strength to bear our crosses and endure our sufferings, even unto death. Enable us to live and love so faithfully that we also become good news to the world, joining your witness. O Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: **You suffered and died that we might never experience the death of sin.**

Hymn #92 “Were You There”

E^b *B^b* *E^b*

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you
 4 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Were you

Gm *Cm* *B^b* *E^b* *B^b* *E^b* *A^b* *B^b* *E^b*

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh,
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh,
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh,
 there when God raised him from the tomb? Oh,

A^b *E^b* *Abdim* *Cm* *A^b* *E^b* *A^b* *B^b*

some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

A^b *E^b* *Cm⁷* *B^b6* *B^b7* *Cm* *Gm* *B^b7* *E^b*

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

A: *Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.*

P: Reflective Reading: Luke 2:29–35

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

P: Prayer on the Seventh Word from the Cross

Father, into whose hands your Son Jesus Christ commended his spirit, grant that we too, following his example, may in all of life and at the moment of our death entrust our lives into your faithful hands of love. In the name of Jesus who gave his life for us all.

C: Amen.

Extinguish the Candle

A: *Lord Jesus – you gave your life for us.*

C: **You suffered and died that we might be welcomed into the loving arms of our Heavenly Father.**

Hymn #117 “O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How art thou pale with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does that vis - age lan - guish which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for he who dies be - liev - ing dies safe - ly in thy love.



P: Prayer of Dedication:

LORD God, you have given us everything.

You have not held anything back.

Help us in like manner to give of ourselves.

Sanctify us in Christ's name.

Bless us and all that we think, feel, say, and do that we, like Jesus, may be a blessing to others.

We ask this and all things that we need for our spiritual growth through him, who taught us to pray ...

**C: 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.**

Extinguish the Paschal Candle

Tolling of the Bell

(seven tones with brief pause between, followed by a pause then 3 peals with longer pause between each)

Turn on altar lights and side spotlights

After a time for meditation and prayer, we depart in silence.