

# **GOOD FRIDAY**



**St. John-St. James**  
**Ev. Lutheran Church & School**

**April 2, 2021**

## UPON ENTERING GOD'S HOUSE

*Tenebrae*, which means darkness, lends its name to this service. The *Tenebrae* service is a traditional service of the Christian Church used during Holy Week to impress upon the minds and hearts of believers the awful consequence of sin and the magnitude of the Savior's sacrifice. The candles are slowly extinguished and the sanctuary lights are dimmed, reminding us of the darkness that came over the earth from noon until 3 p.m. while Jesus hung on the cross. The seven candles represent Jesus, the Light of the world. The church is gradually darkened to portray Jesus coming closer and closer to death.

One last vigil candle will remain lit to indicate that death only seems triumphant over Christ. It will be removed to symbolize Jesus' death and burial.

**Before the service begins tonight, you are invited to come to the front of the church to light your own candle.** These small tea candles that are lit from the Christ Candle, will symbolize our faith that comes from Christ and the life that we have only from him. Our candles are not extinguished, because Jesus' life was given in our place. We may die, but our lives will not end. Our lives will go on eternally. Jesus promised it: "*Because I live, you also will live.*" So before the service begins, you are invited to go to the front of the church to light a candle. In faith, remember that it was your sin that Jesus paid for on the cross. In faith, remember that it was your victory Jesus won, when he defeated death. Leave today, in faith with the sure hope that "*whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*"

The light of Christ will emerge from the tomb on Easter morning. We look forward to celebrating his victory over death at our Easter services this Sunday!

## ***We Contemplate the Depths of Man's Sin and God's Love***

### ***Opening Hymn:***

Sweet the Moments , Rich in Blessing

Christian Worship, Hymn # 111

#### **Verse 1**

** Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, Which before the cross we spend,  
Life and health and peace possessing From the sinner's dying friend.**

#### **Verse 2**

** Here we rest in wonder, viewing All our sins on Jesus laid;  
Here we see redemption flowing From the sacrifice he made.**

#### **Verse 3**

** Here we find the dawn of heaven While upon the cross we gaze,  
See our trespasses forgiven, And our songs of triumph raise.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS PRAYER

**M** We pray in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**M** Heavenly Father, you are a just God who accepts nothing less than perfection. All too often we fail to realize how our sins offend you. We forget that the wages of sin truly is death. We forget that there actually is a hell. Lead us to recognize the seriousness of our sinfulness. Lead us also to admit our inability to make things right with you.

**C** **Lord, we have fallen short and sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Please, forgive us for Jesus' sake.**

**M** Today may we be reminded not only of your justice but also of your love. You did not spare your own Son but gave him as a ransom for each one of us. Comfort us with the knowledge of this great love. Give us the peace that the forgiveness of sins brings.

**C** **When we feel our guilt, point us to the cross where our guilt was washed away in Jesus' blood.**

**M** Lord Jesus, we thank you for paying the debt we could not pay. We thank you for coming to earth so that we could be with you forever in heaven.

**C** **For being our perfect substitute, we thank you, Lord Jesus.**

**M** Son of God, you offered up your body as an unblemished sacrifice for sin and commended your spirit into the hands of the Father. Teach us to cast the cares of this brief life on our heavenly Father and commit our bodies and souls to his love.

**C** **Grant us courage to face all that comes in life, including death. Give us confidence in knowing this is how you lead us to heaven.**

**M** Holy Spirit, hear us now as we offer our personal thoughts and concerns in silent prayer. Help us in our weakness and intercede for us when we are unable to give words to the thoughts and feelings of our hearts.

*(Silent prayer.)*

**M** The cross was once an instrument of torture and death. It is now a sign of love and life.

**C** **Dear Savior, we humbly come before you to kneel at the cross in awe of your power and love. Amen.**

**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C** Verse 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.**

**C** Verse 2  **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?**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** God most holy, look with mercy on this group of worshipers gathered in faith for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### *Old Testament Lesson*

Psalm 22

<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? <sup>2</sup> My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup> Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises. <sup>4</sup> In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. <sup>5</sup> To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup> **But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people.** <sup>7</sup> **All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads.** <sup>8</sup> **“He trusts in the LORD,” they say, “let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”**

<sup>9</sup> Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you, even at my mother's breast.

<sup>10</sup> From birth I was cast on you; from my mother's womb you have been my God.

<sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

<sup>12</sup> Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. <sup>13</sup> Roaring lions that tear their prey open their mouths wide against me. <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me. <sup>15</sup> My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup> Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet. <sup>17</sup> All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. <sup>18</sup> They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

**<sup>19</sup> But you, LORD, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.**

**<sup>20</sup> Deliver me from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs. <sup>21</sup> Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.**

<sup>22</sup> I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you. <sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! <sup>24</sup> For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

<sup>25</sup> From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows. <sup>26</sup> The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the LORD will praise him— may your hearts live forever!

**<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, <sup>28</sup> for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations. <sup>29</sup> All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him— those who cannot keep themselves alive. <sup>30</sup> Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. <sup>31</sup> They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!**

**© I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. And this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.**

***Epistle Lesson***

Hebrews 9:11-15

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. <sup>14</sup> How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

<sup>15</sup> For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

## Hymn Response:

## Not All the Blood of Beasts

Christian Worship, Hymn # 128

- G** Verse 1  **Not all the blood of beasts  
On Israel's altars slain  
Could give the guilty conscience peace  
Or wash away the stain.**
- G** Verse 2  **But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb,  
Takes all our sins away,  
A sacrifice of nobler name  
And richer blood than they.**
- G** Verse 4  **My soul looks back to see  
The burden you did bear  
When hanging on the curs-ed tree—  
I know my guilt was there!**
- G** Verse 5  **Believing, we rejoice  
To see the curse remove;  
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice  
And sing his bleeding love.**

### THE SACRAMENT

*Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship as believers, and we proclaim his death until he returns. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper, **St. Johh-St. James members** are asked to register with the ushers before or after the service.*

**Guests and visitors** wishing to commune with us for the first time are asked to speak with our pastor prior to the start of the worship service. We make this request out of a love for our Savior's teaching concerning the Lord's Supper (I Corinthians 10,11), and out of love for our guests, seeking only their spiritual good and blessing. We humbly ask for your respectful cooperation. May the Lord bless each of our communicants today with peace-filled hearts and a renewed spirit to serve and love their Lord Jesus.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

## PREFACE and WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive the forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

In Holy Communion we are not more forgiven, but we are drawn closer to our God and we have a further assurance that our sins have been forgiven. God's people participate in an intimate communion with their God in the Lord's Supper, and through it God promises to bestow blessings upon us. So also those who commune together participate in a communion with one another sharing in a common loaf and a common faith. This union with God and one another is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God the peace we share. Thus, we remember...

**M** Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## ***Hymn of Preparation:***

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Christian Worship, Hymn # 312

**C** Verse 1

♪ **Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared  
This feast for our salvation;  
It is your body and your blood,  
And at your invitation  
As weary souls, with sin oppressed,  
We come to you for needed rest,  
For comfort and for pardon.**

### **A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION**

Heavenly Father, we confess our many sins, trusting that Jesus Christ, your Son, has fully atoned for them all. We humbly seek your grace and blessings in this sacrament. Use it to comfort our hearts and give us peace. Make our penitence ever genuine and our faith ever true, that strengthened by this means of grace we may turn from our sins and trust in our Savior. It's in His name we ask. Amen.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration: )*

**M** Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting.

**C** **Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING**

**M** Heavenly Father, we have received from your Son his body once offered, now given in bread; his blood once shed, now given in wine. Reassure us of your love and forgiveness through this means of grace, so that we may be comforted in our guilt, strengthened in our faith and affirmed in our hope that only comes through Jesus Christ, who died and was buried, but also rose and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## ***Communion Cup Collection:***

*During the following hymn the ushers will come to you to gather your used communion cups. Please place your cups directly into the receptacle.*

## **Hymn of the Day:**

## **Splinters and Stones**

*Fate holds nothing on the providence I know  
No longer bound to things of wood and stone  
When all I had to offer was my worst  
You saw my heavy heart and loved me first  
Your beauty staring down my brokenness  
You chose me to throw Your heart into the mess  
Compassion crashing down upon my debt You were there*

Chorus: *All this time Like a river running through my failure  
You carried me all this time  
Like the splinters buried in Your shoulders You carry me now  
Hallelujah If ever now my heart cries Hallelujah  
If ever now in the wonder of Your grace  
A thousand times a thousand years my say will say  
Grace You saw the crushing weight my flesh deserved  
You kneeled and wrote forgiveness in the dirt  
And one by one the stones fell where they lay  
As one by one my accusers walked away  
With nothing left to throw they made a cross  
And knowing only love could count the cost You were there*

Chorus: *All this time Like a river running through my failure  
You carried me all this time  
Like the splinters buried in Your shoulders  
Your love carried all my shame  
Jesus how my soul will praise You  
You carried me all this way  
Like a diamond in scars upon your crown You carry me now.  
Hallelujah If ever now my heart cries Hallelujah  
If ever now in the wonder of Your grace  
A thousand times a thousand years my say will say  
Hallelujah Forever now in the greatness of my Savior  
Forever now in the brightness of your name  
Jesus on this rock I'll sing Your praise  
Hallelujah If ever now my heart cries Hallelujah  
If ever now in the wonder of Your grace  
A thousand times a thousand years my say will say  
Hallelujah Forever now in the greatness of my Savior  
Forever now in the brightness of your name  
Jesus on this rock I'll sing Your praise*

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## † SEVEN WORDS FROM THE CROSS †

*Traditionally the Good Friday service follows Jesus to the grave focusing on the seven words he spoke from the cross. While some are indeed just one word, most are sentences. We take time to focus on each of the thoughts the Scriptures record from Jesus while he hung on the cross paying not only for our sins but the sins of the world.*

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### † The First Word †

**“Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”**  
Luke 23:34

#### ***Devotion on the First Word***

#### ***Song Response:***

Christian Worship, Hymn # 351

Hail, O Once-Despised Jesus

#### **C** Verse 2

♪ **Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, All our sins on you were laid;  
By almighty love anointed, You have full atonement made.  
Ev'ry sin has been forgiven Through the power of your blood;  
Open is the gate of heaven; We are reconciled to God.**

#### **C** Verse 3

♪ **Jesus, heav'nly hosts adore you, Seated at your Father's side.  
Crucified this world once saw you; Now in glory you abide.  
There for sinners you are pleading, And our place you now prepare,  
Ever for us interceding Till in glory we appear.**

## † The Second Word †

**“I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”**

Luke 23:43

### *Devotion on the Second Word*

#### **Song Response:**

Jesus, in Your Dying Woes

Christian Worship, Hymn # 139

#### **C** Verse 1

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

#### **C** Verse 2

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

## † The Third Word †

**“Dear woman, here is your son.” “Here is your mother.”**

John 19:26,27

### *Devotion on the Third Word*

#### **Song Response:**

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

Christian Worship, Hymn # 122

#### **C** Verse 2

♪ **Tell how, when at length the fullness Of th’ appointed time was come,  
He, the Word, was born of woman, Left for us his Father’s home,  
Blazed the path of true obedience Shone as light amidst the gloom.**

#### **C** Verse 3

♪ **Thus, with thirty years accomplished, He went forth from Nazareth,  
Destined, dedicated, willing, Did the work and met his death;  
Like a lamb he humbly yielded On the cross his dying breath.**

## † The Fourth Word †

**“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”**

Matthew 27:46

### ***Devotion on the Fourth Word***

#### ***Song Response:***

Christian Worship, Hymn # 129

Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

#### **C** Verse 2

♪ **Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!**

#### **C** Verse 3

♪ **Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut its glories in  
When God, the mighty Maker, died For his own creature's sin.**



## † The Fifth Word †

“I am thirsty.”

John 19:28

### *Devotion on the Fifth Word*

#### *Song Response:*

O Dearest Jesus

Christian Worship, Hymn # 117

#### **C** Verse 2

♪ They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;  
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge you;  
They give you gall to drink, they still decry you;  
They crucify you.

#### **C** Verse 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.

## † The Sixth Word †

“It is finished.”

John 19:30

### *Devotion on the Sixth Word*

#### *Song Response:*

Oh, Perfect Life of Love

Christian Worship, Hymn # 138

#### **C** Verse 1

♪ Oh, perfect life of love! All, all is finished now,  
All that he left his throne above To do for us below.

#### **C** Verse 4

♪ No work is left undone Of all the Father willed.  
His toil, his sorrows, one by one, The Scriptures have fulfilled.

## † The Seventh Word †

**“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”**

Luke 23:46

### ***Devotion on the Seventh Word***

*The Christ Candle is not extinguished, but merely removed signifying his burial. Knowing the rest of the story, we leave the Lord in the tomb, waiting to see Him alive on Easter Sunday.*

### ***Song Response:***

Were You There

#### **G** Verse 1

**♪ 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?**

#### **G** Verse 2

**♪ 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?**

#### **G** Verse 3

**♪ Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

## CLOSING PRAYER

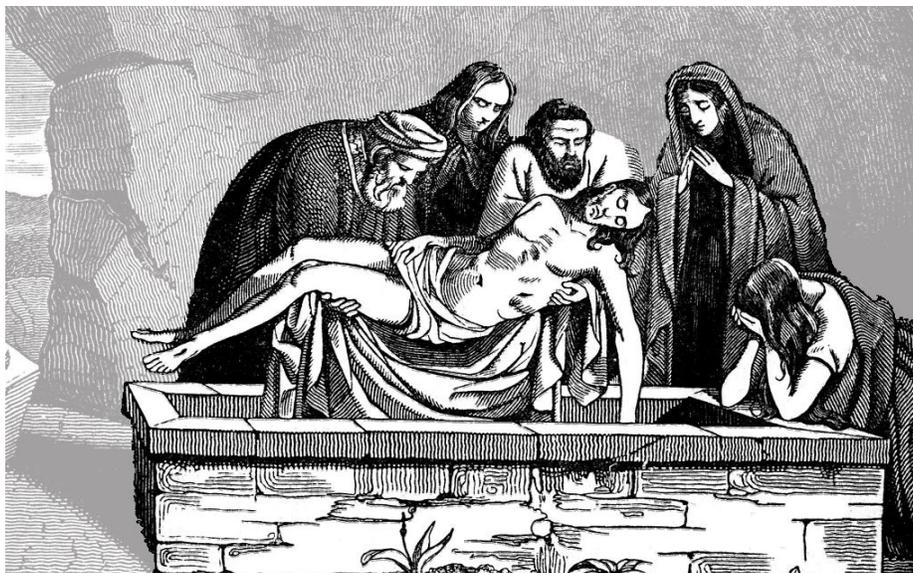
### A WORD OF HOPE

**M** Our hearts hurt seeing the excruciating pain and agony our sins have caused our Lord. Yet, as we leave tonight, we do not leave in despair. Rather, we leave in hope, knowing that God's plan was to conquer death and rise again on the third day. We look forward to recounting the rest of this story of love on Easter Sunday. Jesus promised, *"Because I live, you also will live."* It's in Jesus' name we depart in silent hope this evening.

**C** **Amen.**

### DEPART IN SILENCE

*The Christ candle has been removed signifying his burial. That is where we leave our Lord this evening—in the tomb. In sober reflection and silence we leave this evening as we contemplate the awesome sacrifice that our Lord made for us. (There will be no post-service announcements, nothing done to detract from the solemnity of our Lord's death as we prepare to leave in silence.)*



# Join us for Easter!

Easter Sunrise – 6:00 & 7:30 AM

Easter Festival – 9:00 & 10:15 AM