

GOOD FRIDAY – THE DEATH OF OUR LORD April 18, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

Zion Ev. Lutheran Church

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Welcome to God's House

On Good Friday we remember the crucifixion and death of our Lord both



with sorrow and solemn joy. Though the events of this day fill us with horror, the implications of those events give us every reason for praise. Jesus' death had this effect: once and for all, it paid for the guilt of all for all of time. Standing in our place, our substitute was forsaken by his Father on the cross so that we

could be restored by his sacrifice and reconciled to God.

We look at Jesus on the cross, and there is sorrow. He is there because of us. He is there because he loves us that much, so much he gave us his last breath. Jesus took all our guilt into the tomb with him. It will stay there. He will not. That is why we can call this Friday *good*.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane #425:1-3

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, pain, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time,

God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Opening Dialogue

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.

Remember his words, **For they give us light.**

Remember his works, **For they show us God's mercy.**

Remember his grace, For it is greater than our sin.

Remember his glory, **For it shines from the cross.**

Remember his pain, For he took it up willingly.

Remember his sorrow,

For it became our joy.

Remember his life, **For it was perfect before God.**

Remember his death, For it was ours.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.

Hymn

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now #420:1-3

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 suffring, pain, and death that I may not perish.

Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction, Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion; Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you, How for them you died, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion, But its cause to me make known and its termination. Ah! I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction; This indeed the cause has been of your crucifixion.

Prayer

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family, 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

See, my servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

Just as there were many who were appalled at him -

His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness—

So will he sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him.

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

Who has believed our message

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. **But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our**

iniquities;

The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, **And by his wounds we are healed.**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; And the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; **He was led like a lamb to the slaughter**,

And as a sheep before her shearers is silent, So he did not open his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants?

For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death,

Though he had done no violence, **Nor was any deceit in his mouth.**

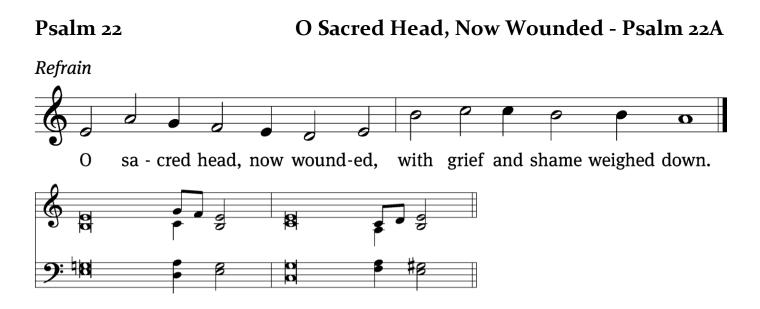
Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, And though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days,

And the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied;

By his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, And he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong,

Because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



My God, my God, why have you for- / saken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of / anguish?

I am a worm and / not a man,

scorned by everyone, despised by the / people.

All who see me / mock me;

they hurl insults, shaking / their heads.

"He trusts in the / Lord," they say,

"let the Lord / rescue him." Refrain

All my bones are / on display;

you lay me in the / dust of death.

A pack of villains en- / circles me;

they pierce my hands / and my feet.
They divide my clothes a- / mong them and cast lots for my / garment.
But you, Lord, do not be / far from me.
You are my strength; come quickly to / help me.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Lesson

Galatians 3:10-13

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law." ¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because "the righteous will live by faith." ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, "The person who does these things will live by them." ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a pole."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 53:4

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

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

¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH,

THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ 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."

²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

²³ 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.

²⁴ "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 which said,

"They divided my garments among them

and cast lots for my clothing."

So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother,

"Dear woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**



Hymn

O Perfect Life of Love #431

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

No work is left undone of all the Father willed;

his toil, his sorrows, one by one, the Scriptures have fulfilled.

No pain that we can share but he has felt its smart; all forms of human grief and care have pierced that tender heart.

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.

In perfect love he dies; for me he dies, for me! O all-atoning Sacrifice, you died to make me free! In ev'ry time of need, before the judgment throne, your works, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, your merits, not my own.

Sermon

Psalm 51:14-17

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.
¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

Restored by His Sacrifice

Confession of Faith

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.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in this 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.

Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, in humble awe, in reverent silence, and in solemn trembling, your people have gathered around your cross to remember your death.

O Christ, friend of sinners, have mercy on us.

At your cross, let us see all the destruction, horror and misery that sin, death, and Satan brought into the world and that you willingly took on yourself. Open our eyes to see that we deserve the death and torments of hell that you suffered for us.

O Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, have mercy on us.

But open our eyes also to see that by your death you destroyed death, by your sacrifice you reconciled us with your Father, and by your shed blood you purchased us to belong to you forever.

O Christ, only hope of a lost world, have mercy on us.

Oh what joy, what hope, what comfort is ours in the midst of sin and affliction, knowing that we are forgiven through your sacrifice and our sins are remembered no more.

O Christ, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

With your triumphant cry of victory from the cross you brought to a close your blessed work of redeeming us from our sins. Help us dedicate our lives in thankful love to you, our brother who gave himself for us.

Hear us, O Son of God, who bore all sin for us. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Offering

The members of Zion have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please don't feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

The Sacrament

Words of Institution

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. **Amen.**

Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are really present in the Lord's Supper and that receiving the Sacrament together is a public statement of our oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask that our guests speak with the pastor before communing. We look forward to any opportunity to discuss the Christian faith with you.

Distribution Hymns

What Wondrous Love Is This #526

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!What wondrous love is this, O my soul!What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down,

when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing;

to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through eternity I'll sing on. 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?

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.

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.

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder! The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander; the Master pays the debt his servants owe him, who would not know him.

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.

I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing, that earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing; to do your will shall be my sole endeavor henceforth forever.

And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven to me the crown of joy at last is given, where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you, I too shall praise you.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; **his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you heartfelt thanks for the holy gifts you have bestowed upon us in Jesus' body and blood, bread and wine. Guide and direct us continually in our journey to the cross that we may behold both your anguish in crucifixion and your joy in resurrection. **Amen.**

Blessing

Go in peace. Christ Jesus has set you free. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Rest, O Christ, From All Your Labor #537:1-3

Rest, O Christ, from all your labor; sleep within your borrowed tomb.
Foes have crucified and bound you fast within death's narrow room.
Pilate's guards stand watching, waiting where they rolled the sealing stone.
All unseen another watches: God will not forsake his own. Peace at last from all your anguish, wounds in hands and feet and side. Enemies no longer mock you, scourged, abandoned, crucified. Faithful women gather spices, weep for you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who guards you will not let your death be vain. Help us keep this solemn Sabbath as we wait for Easter dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is passing; death's long reign will soon be gone. Christ, in whom the new creation rises brighter than the sun: may we, as we watch for morning, trust the vict'ry you have won.

Please leave quietly, in solemn reflection of what happened on this day.

You're invited to bring a friend, family member or neighbor to join you this Sunday as we celebrate Easter. On Good Friday we see Jesus give his life for ours; on Easter Sunday we'll see Jesus take back his life so that we might have eternal life.

Easter Sunrise	Sunday, April 20 th at 6:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast	starting at 7:00 a.m.
Easter Festival Worship	Sunday, April 20 th at 9:00 a.m.

We thank Bea Pamperin, who served as our organist this afternoon.

Sunday School / Bible Study Please note that we do NOT have Catechism classes, Sunday School or adult bible study this weekend. All will resume as normal next week.

Please pick up a calendar for April, church newsletter, and the *Forward in Christ* from the cabinets in the entryway.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded Psalm 22A

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Rest, O Christ, From All Your Labor #437:1-3

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