

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

1811 Lincoln Avenue, Evansville, Indiana
Office: (812) 476-9991 · www.redeemerchurch.org

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE

April 10, 2020

7:00 p.m. Online Worship Service

UNDERSTANDING GOOD FRIDAY

On the day known by the Jews as the 14th day of Nisan--the day that the Passover lamb was to be slaughtered, Jesus of Nazareth was led to a hill outside of the city and crucified. This event has historically been celebrated on a Friday, because the Bible says that the next day was to be a Sabbath—which is normally Saturday.

The Gospel of John says, however, that the next day was to be a special Sabbath. The Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is concurrent with Passover, was to have a day on which no work was to be performed. That “sabbath” could fall on any day of the week.

Since Jesus was said to be in the tomb, “three days and three nights”, the only way it could be three nights is if Jesus’ crucifixion was actually on a Thursday, with the special Sabbath on Friday and the regular Sabbath on Saturday.

What day it was is interesting but not important. The fact that Jesus atoned for our sins with His death and forsakenness is the important thing.

Today we will go to His cross in our hearts, minds and words. We will try to experience the day that brought about our salvation.

INTRODUCTION

Pastor Tom Wenig

INVOCATION *Lamentations 1:12-14*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: “Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see.

People: Is there any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of His fierce anger?”

Pastor: “From on high He sent fire; into my bones He made it descend;

People: He spread a net for my feet; He turned me back; He has left me stunned, faint all the day long.”

Pastor: “My transgressions were bound into a yoke; by His hand they were fastened together;

People: they were set upon my neck; He caused my strength to fail; the Lord gave me into the hands of those whom I cannot withstand.”

HYMN

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

(LSB 440 v.1,6)

440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

sts. 1, 6



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.

6 Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing Your praise forever.

I. JESUS IN GETHSEMANE

Pastor: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel.” (*Genesis 3:15*)

Narrator: When they had sung a hymn, Jesus went out, as was His custom, to the Mount of Olives, and His disciples followed Him. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: “*You will all be offended because of Me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.*”

Narrator: Peter answered and said to Him,

Peter: “*Even if all the others deny You, I will never deny You.*”

Jesus: “*Truly, I say to you that this night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny Me three times.*”

Peter: “*Even if I have to die with You, I will never deny You!*”

Narrator: And all the others said likewise. They went over the brook Kidron and came to a place called Gethsemane. There was a garden there, and He went into it with his disciples. Judas knew the place, for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Jesus said to them,

Jesus: “*Sit down here, while I go on ahead and pray. Pray that you do not enter into temptation.*”

Narrator: He took with Him Peter and James and John and began to be full of sorrow and turmoil.

Jesus: “*My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Wait here, and watch with Me.*”

Narrator: He went on a little from them, about a stone’s throw away. He fell on His face and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him.

Jesus: *“Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”*

Narrator: An angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him; and He prayed,

Jesus: *“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”*

Narrator: In agony, He prayed more earnestly,

Jesus: *“Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; nevertheless, not my will, but Yours be done.”*

Narrator: His sweat fell on the ground like great drops of blood. When He got up from prayer, He came to His disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter,

Jesus: *“Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

Narrator: He went away again the second time and prayed, saying,

Jesus: *“O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done.”*

Narrator: When He returned, He found them asleep again; for their eyes were heavy, and they did not know what to answer Him. He left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

Then Jesus came to His disciples and said to them:

Jesus: *“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour is come; behold, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. Look, the one who betrays Me is here.”*

Narrator: Even while He was saying this, Judas, one of the Twelve, came with a detachment and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees. They came to the place with lanterns and torches and weapons. Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went out to them and said:

Jesus: “Whom do you seek?”

Soldiers: “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus: “I am He.”

Pastor: “They encircle me with words of hate, and attack me without cause. In return for my friendship they accuse me, but I am a man of prayer. They repay me evil for good, and hatred for my friendship.” (*Psalm 109:3-5*)

PRAYER

All: Help us to watch with You and to understand Your suffering.

Pastor: Your strength has resulted in our salvation.

People: Out of love You overcame the Adversary.

HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

(LSB 436 v.1-2)

436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

sts. 1-2



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,



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

(The first candle is extinguished.)

II. JESUS IS BETRAYED

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed Him, had taken his stand with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again He asked them:

Jesus: *"Whom do you seek?"*

Soldiers: *"Jesus of Nazareth."*

Jesus: *"I told you that I am He. If I am the one you seek, then let these others go."*

Narrator: This was to fulfill the word He had spoken:

Jesus: *"Of those You gave Me I have lost none."*

Narrator: Now he who was betraying Jesus had given them a sign, saying:

Judas: *"The one whom I shall kiss, that is He; seize Him and be sure to take Him away securely."*

Narrator: Judas went straight up to Jesus and kissed Him.

Judas: *"Hail, Master!"*

Jesus: *"Friend, why have you come? Judas, do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"*

Narrator: They came then and laid their hands on Jesus and took Him. When those who were about Him saw what would happen, they said to Him:

Peter: *"Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"*

Narrator: Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

Jesus: *"No more of that!"*

Narrator: And Jesus touched his ear and healed him.

Jesus: *“Put your sword into its sheath. All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Do you imagine that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will send Me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must be so? The cup which My Father has given Me, shall I not drink of it?”*

Narrator: Then Jesus said to the chief priests, and the captains of the temple, and the elders who had come out against him:

Jesus: *“Have you come out as against a thief, with swords and clubs to take Me? When I was with you day after day teaching in the temple, you did not lay your hands on Me; but this is your hour and the hour of the power of darkness. All this has happened that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.”*

Narrator: Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled. There was a certain young man who followed along. He had only a linen cloth around his naked body. They laid hold on him, but he slipped out of the linen cloth and fled away naked.

Then the detachment and its captain and the officers of the Jews seized Jesus, and bound Him, and led Him away to Annas first; for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was the high priest that year. Now Caiaphas was the one who gave counsel to the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

Pastor: *“Even My close friend in whom I trusted, who ate My bread, has lifted up his heel against Me.” (Psalm 41:9)*

HYMN

“O Love, How Deep”

(LSB 544 v.1,5)

544 O Love, How Deep

sts. 1, 5

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,
Be - yond all in thought and fan - ta - sy,
For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,



That God, the Son of God, should take;
He bore the shame - ful cross and death;

Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
For us He gave His dy - ing breath.

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(The second candle is extinguished.)

III. JESUS BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN

Narrator: Those who had arrested Jesus brought Him to the high priest's house, where the scribes and elders were assembled. Peter followed Him afar off and so did another disciple. That disciple was known to the high priest and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest, but Peter stood outside at the door. So that other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the doorkeeper and brought Peter in. He went in and sat with the servants to see the end. He was warming himself at the fire they had kindled in the middle of the courtyard. Meanwhile, the chief priests and the whole council were seeking evidence that might make the case for a death sentence, but they could not find any. Many bore false witness against Him, but their statements did not agree. Two stepped forward and said:

Crowd: *“We heard Him say, ‘I shall destroy this temple made with hands and after three days I shall build another, not made with hands.’”*

Narrator: But even on this point the evidence did not agree. Then the high priest stood up, moved to the center, and put this question to Jesus:

High Priest: *“Do You have no answer? What is this evidence they have given against You?”*

Narrator: But He was silent and gave no answer.

High Priest: *“Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”*

Jesus: *“I am. You will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of God's power and coming with the clouds of heaven.”*

Narrator: The high priest tore his garments.

High Priest: *“Do we still need any witnesses? You have heard this blasphemy. What is your opinion?”*

Narrator: They all agreed:

All: *“He is worthy of death!”*

Narrator: Then some of them began to spit on Him; they blindfolded Him, struck Him, and said to Him:

Crowd: *“Prophecy to us, O Christ, who is it that struck You?”*

Narrator: The guards beat Him as they took Him away.

Pastor: *“I offered My back to those who beat Me, My cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I did not hide My face from mocking and spitting.” (Isaiah 50:6)*

Narrator: Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. One of the maidservants of the high priest came and saw Peter warming himself. She looked at him closely as he sat in the light of the fire.

Woman 1: *“You also were along with the man from Nazareth; that Jesus.”*

Narrator: Peter denied it.

Peter: *“I do not know what you mean.”*

Narrator: He went out to the forecourt. Another maidservant saw him there and said to those who were standing around:

Woman 2: *“This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”*

Narrator: Peter denied it again with an oath.

Peter: *“I do not know the man!”*

Narrator: A little later those standing around said to Peter,

Crowd: *“Surely you are one of them. You are a Galilean. Your accent gives you away.”*

Narrator: Peter started calling down curses on himself and swore:

Peter: *“I do not know the man!”*

Narrator: And immediately while he was still speaking, the cock crowed a second time, and the Lord turned and looked on Peter. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said to him,

Jesus: *“Before the cock crows twice, you will deny Me three times.”*

Narrator: Peter broke down, and went out, and wept bitterly. As soon as it was morning the chief priests with the elders and the scribes held the court session with all the Sanhedrin. Then they bound Him, led Him away, and turned Him over to Pilate. Then Judas, who had betrayed Him, when he saw that He was condemned, was sorry and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders.

Judas: *“I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood.”*

Priests: *“What is that to us? That is your affair.”*

Narrator: Judas threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed. He went and hanged himself. The chief priests took the silver pieces.

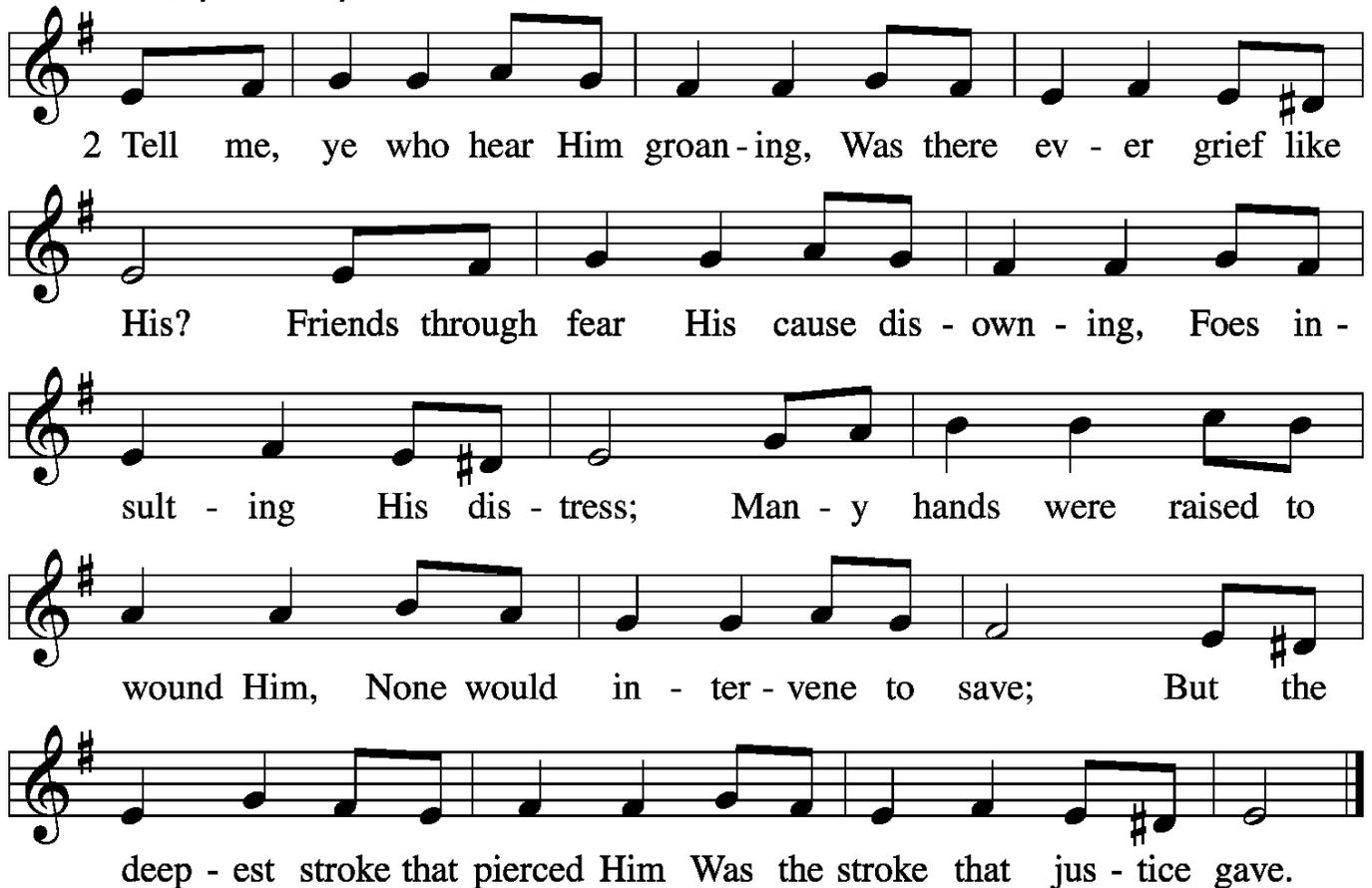
Priests: *“It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.”*

Narrator: They took counsel and bought with them the potter's field to bury strangers in. That is why to this day that field has been called “the field of blood.” In this way *it* was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet.

Pastor: “I told them, ‘If it is agreeable to you, give me my pay; but if not, keep it!’ So they paid me thirty pieces of silver. Then the LORD said to me, ‘Throw it to the potter—the magnificent price at which they priced me!’ So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.” (*Zechariah 11:12-13*)

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

st. 2



2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.

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(The third candle is extinguished.)

IV. JESUS CONDEMNED

Narrator: When they had bound Jesus, they led Him from Caiaphas to the hall of judgment and gave Him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. It was early. They themselves did not go into the judgment hall, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover. Pilate then went out to them, and said:

Pilate: *"What charge do you bring against this man?"*

Priests: *"If He were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you."*

Pilate: *"Take Him, then, and judge Him according to your law."*

Priests: *“It is not lawful for us to put any man to death.”*

Narrator: So the word of Jesus was fulfilled, signifying by what death He should die. The charges they brought against Him were:

Priests: *“We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a king.”*

Narrator: Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus.

Pilate: *“Are You the King of the Jews?”*

Jesus: *“Do you say this for yourself, or did others say it to you about Me?”*

Pilate: *“Do You take me for a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have given You over to me. What have You done?”*

Jesus: *“My kingdom is not of this world; if My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would have fought that I should not be given over to the Jews; but My kingdom is not of this world.”*

Pilate: *“Are You a king then?”*

Jesus: *“You say rightly that I am a king. I was born and I came into the world that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone that is of the truth hears My voice.”*

Pilate: *“What is truth?”*

Narrator: After he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them,

Pilate: *“I find no fault in this man.”*

Narrator: The chief priests kept laying one charge after another against Him, but He answered not a word.

Pastor: *“He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and like a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.” (Isaiah 53:7)*

Narrator: Pilate questioned Him again.

Pilate: *“Do You answer nothing? See how many charges they lay against You.”*

Narrator: Jesus answered him not a word. Pilate was utterly amazed. He said to the chief priests and to the crowd,

Pilate: *“I find no case against this man.”*

Narrator: They pressed their charges more vehemently:

Priests: *“He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judaea, beginning from Galilee to this place.”*

Narrator: When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. When he learned that He belonged in Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him on to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem for those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was delighted, for he had long wished to see Him because of what he had heard of Him, and he hoped to see Him do a miracle. He questioned Jesus repeatedly, but He gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes stood there and vehemently accused Him. Herod and his soldiers mocked Him. They put a splendid robe on Him and sent Him back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that same day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other. Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them:

Pilate: *“You have brought this man before me as one subverting the people. See now, I have examined Him before you and have found nothing in this man guilty of any of your charges against Him, and neither did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. He has done nothing worthy of death. I will have Him punished and release Him.”*

Narrator: Now at the feast it was the governor's custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner whom they asked for. They had then a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. He was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection in the city. Pilate knew that it was out of malice that the chief priests handed Jesus over. Therefore he said to them:

Pilate: *“Do you want me to release for you Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?”*

Narrator: The chief priests and elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. Pilate asked them again:

Pilate: *“Which of the two do you want me to release for you?”*

Narrator: And they cried out all together, saying,

All: *“Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!”*

Narrator: While Pilate was sitting in the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message:

Wife: *“Do not have anything to do with that man; I have suffered much over Him today in a dream.”*

Narrator: Again Pilate addressed them, for he wished to release Jesus.

Pilate: *“What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ? What shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?”*

All: *“Crucify Him!”*

Pilate: *“Why, what evil has He done? I have found no guilt worthy of death in Him; I will therefore punish Him and let Him go.”*

All: *“Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”*

Narrator: Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged.

Pastor: “For prison and judgement He was taken away. And who can speak of His descendants? For He was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgressions of My people.” *(Isaiah 53:8)*

HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

(LSB 430 v.3,5)

430 My Song Is Love Unknown

sts. 3, 5

3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais-es
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -
sing; Re-sound-ing all the day Ho-san-nas to their
way; A mur-der-er they save, The Prince of Life they

King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes

And for His death They thirst and cry.
That He His foes From thence might free.

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(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

V. JESUS CRUCIFIED

Narrator: The soldiers of the governor led Jesus away into the praetorium. They gathered the whole band of soldiers around Him. They stripped Him and put a purple robe on Him. When they had woven a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and a reed in His right hand, and they knelt before Him and mocked Him, saying:

All: *"Hail, King of the Jews!"*

Narrator: They spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. They knelt down and did Him homage.

Pastor: "They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod." (*Micah 5:1*)

Narrator: Pilate went out again and said to them:

Pilate: *"See, I bring Him out to you that you may know I find Him not guilty."*

Narrator: So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

Pilate: *"Behold the man!"*

Narrator: When the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried:

All: *"Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"*

Pilate: *"Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I do not find Him guilty."*

Priests: *“We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God.”*

Narrator: When Pilate heard this, he was more afraid and went again into the judgment hall.

Pilate: *“Where are You from?”*

Narrator: Jesus gave him no answer.

Pilate: *“Do You refuse to speak to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and I have power to release You?”*

Jesus: *“You would not have any power at all over Me, unless it had been given to you from above. For that reason he who handed Me over to you has the greater sin.”*

Narrator: This prompted Pilate to go on trying to release Him, but the Jews cried out:

All: *“If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar.”*

Narrator: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement or, in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. It was the Preparation of the Passover, about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews:

Pilate: *“Behold your king!”*

All: *“Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!”*

Pilate: *“Shall I crucify your king?”*

Narrator: The chief priests answered:

Priests: *“We have no king but Caesar!”*

Narrator: When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but rather a riot was underway, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd.

Pilate: *“I am innocent of the blood of this man; see to it yourselves.”*

All: *“His blood be on us and on our children!”*

Narrator: Then Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, gave sentence that it should be as they demanded. He released to them Barabbas for whom they asked; the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder. He had Jesus flogged and then gave Him over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers mocked Him, stripped Him of the purple robe, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him. The soldiers now had charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out of the city to a place called Skull Hill, in Hebrew, *Golgotha*. As they led Him away, they laid hold on Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country. On him they laid the cross that he might bear it after Jesus.

Following Him was a great company of people and of women who bewailed and lamented Him. Jesus turned to them and said:

Jesus: *“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. The days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do these things with a green tree, what will happen with a dry one?”*

Pastor: “I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on Me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve bitterly over Him as one grieves over a firstborn.” (*Zechariah 12:10*)

Narrator: There were also two others: criminals whom they led along to be put to death with Him. When they came to the place called Golgotha, they gave Him wine mingled with gall to drink, but when He tasted it, He would not drink it. It was the third hour, and there they crucified Him.

Pastor: “They pierced My hands and My feet.” (*Psalms 22:16*)

Jesus: *“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”*

Narrator: The two criminals they also crucified with Him—one on His right, the other on His left, with Jesus in the middle. The Scripture was then fulfilled.

Pastor: “Out of the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant will justify the 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. Yet He bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.” (*Isaiah 53:11-12*)

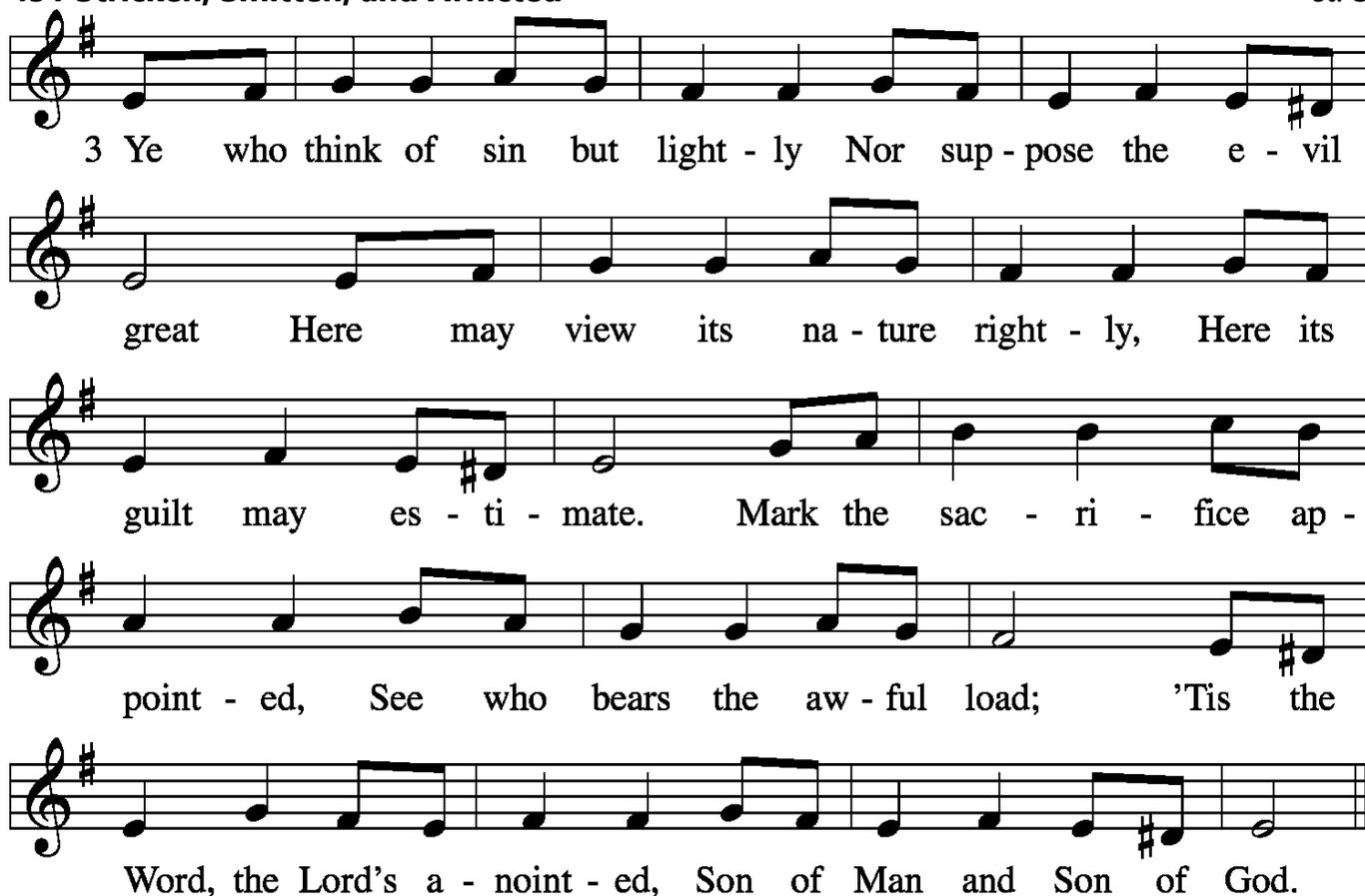
HYMN

“Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted”

(*LSB 451 v.3*)

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

st. 3



3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.

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(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

VI. JESUS SUFFERS ON THE CROSS

Narrator: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they cast lots to divide His clothes and decide what each should take. They made four parts, one for each soldier. There remained His tunic, which was without seam, woven in one piece from the top to the bottom.

Soldiers: *“Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide who shall have it.”*

Narrator: The Scripture was thus fulfilled.

Pastor: “They divide My garments among them and cast lots for My clothing.” (*Psalm 22:18*)

Narrator: These things the soldiers did and, sitting down, they kept watch over Him there. Over His head was put the charge against Him. Pilate wrote the notice to be put on the cross. It read, “JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.” This title was read by many of the Jews, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near to the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. The chief priests of the Jews then said to Pilate:

Priests: *“Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”*

Pilate: *“What I have written, I have written.”*

Narrator: People stood by watching. Those who passed by hurled insults at Him, shaking their heads.

All: *“Ha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross!”*

Narrator: So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked Him.

Priests: *“He saved others; He cannot save Himself! Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross that we may see and believe! He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He wants Him, for He said, ‘I am the Son of God!’”*

Narrator: The soldiers also mocked Him, coming to Him and offering Him wine.

Soldiers: *“If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!”*

Narrator: The thieves who were crucified with Him were also insulting Him, and one of the criminals who hung there with Him railed at Him:

Thief 1: *“Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!”*

Narrator: But the other criminal rebuked him,

Thief 2: *“Do you not fear God since you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed are condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for what we have done; but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”*

Jesus: *“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”*

Narrator: Near to the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing near, He said:

Jesus: *“Dear woman, behold your son! Behold your mother!”*

Narrator: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. About the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice:

Jesus: *“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”*

Narrator: Which means, *“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”* When some of them that were standing there heard it they said:

People: *“He is calling for Elijah.”*

Narrator: After this, Jesus knew that all things were accomplished. Fulfilling the Scripture He said:

Jesus: *“I thirst.”*

Narrator: There was a jar of wine standing there. One of them ran immediately to get a sponge. He filled it with wine, put it on a reed, held it up to His mouth, and gave it to Him to drink.

People: *“Wait and see if Elijah will come to save Him.”*

Narrator: When Jesus had received the wine, He cried with a loud voice:

Jesus: *“It is finished! Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.”*

Narrator: Having said this, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Narrator: At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

When the centurion who stood facing Him saw how He died, he said:

Centurion: *“Truly, this man was the Son of God!”*

Special: “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.” *(Isaiah 53:4-6)*

MESSAGE

“Forsaken in Our Place”

Intro: The most significant words from Jesus on the cross

I. Why have you forsaken me?

- A. Jesus understood the plan and the gravity of it*
- B. His stress was not about physical pain*
- C. Forsakenness was the requirement of the Law for sinners*
- D. Hell is forsakenness*

II. The experience of Hell

- A. Even the Son of God is overwhelmed*
- B. Possible for the three hours of darkness*
- C. The Law fulfilled and atonement complete*
- D. No one else could or would do this for you*

SPECIAL MUSIC

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

(LSB 450)

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

VII. JESUS PLACED IN THE TOMB

Narrator: All the people who had gathered to see the sight, when they saw what had happened, turned away beating their breasts. Those who had known Him stood at a distance, as also the women who had followed Him from Galilee. Among them was Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

It was the day of Preparation before the Sabbath, and this was Passover Sabbath. Therefore, so that the bodies should not remain on the crosses during the Sabbath, the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies removed. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. One who saw it is our witness and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth that you also may believe. These things were done so that the Scripture should be fulfilled.

Pastor: “He keeps all His bones; not one of them will be broken.” (*Psalms 34:20*)

“They shall not leave any of the Passover Lamb until morning or break any of its bones; according to the ordinances of the Passover they shall keep it.” (*Numbers 9:12*)

Narrator: By this time evening had come. A respected member of the council, Joseph of Arimathea, was one who was looking for the kingdom of God, a good and righteous man who had not consented to their purpose and deed. He was a disciple of Jesus secretly, for he feared the Jews. Now he took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was astonished that He could be dead already. He called for the centurion and asked him whether Jesus was already dead. When he was assured by the centurion that it was so, Pilate granted Joseph the corpse and commanded that it be given over to him.

Joseph brought fine linen and came and took the body of Jesus. Nicodemus came also, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pound weight. It was he who had first come to Jesus by night.

Narrator: They then took the body of Jesus and wrapped it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new tomb, where no one had ever been buried. Joseph laid the body in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock, and rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed.

Pastor: “He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.” (*Isaiah 53:9*)

Narrator: Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were sitting there opposite the sepulcher and saw where He was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath day they rested according to the commandment. On the next day, the day after the Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees went together to Pilate.

Priests: *“Sir, we remember what that imposter said, while He was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command that the sepulcher be made secure until the third day to stop His disciples from coming and stealing Him and saying to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ making the final deception worse than the first.”*

Pilate: *“You have a guard of soldiers. Go and make it as secure as you know how.”*

Narrator: So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting a watch.

Pastor: “He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live in His presence.” (*Hosea 6:2*)

“For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, nor will You let your Holy One undergo decay. You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures eternal.” (*Psalms 16:10-11*)

(Silence for Meditation)

(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

† The Christ Candle is Removed †

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Were You There”

(LSB 456)

Pastor: Almighty God, we ask You to look with mercy on Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross. We have remembered His death and our death to sin. May we look now toward His resurrection and ours. Amen.

The sound of the STREPITUS is heard, a harsh noise signifying the closing of the tomb and the earthquake. Then the CHRIST CANDLE is returned to the chancel in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection.

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Serving Good Friday - ONLINE ONLY

April 10, 2020

Vocalists: Jeremy Seger, Matt Williams and Molly Wuertz

Organist: Molly Wuertz