

Lenten Service

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor John Boor

April 7, 2023

Good Friday

Worship Service 7:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

Peter addressed the people in Solomon's Portico at the temple in Jerusalem after the time of Pentecost, and said directly, "Men of Israel . . . you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life" (Acts 3:12, 14-15). In the service of Good Friday, we reflect on that truth and remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for each of us. Good Friday is good for us. It is good to be here!

THE PRELUDE

Announcements

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

LBW #107

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
A home within a wilderness, A rest upon the way
From the burning of the noon tide heat and burdens of the day**

**Upon the cross of Jesus, My eye at times can see
The very dying form of one Who suffered there for me
And from my contrite heart, with tears, Two wonders I confess:
The wonder of his glorious love And my unworthiness.**

I take, O cross your shadow For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than The sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, To know no going or loss,
My sinful self my only shame, My glory all, the cross.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Christ entered once for all into the holy places, by means of His own blood,

Thus securing an eternal redemption

Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant,

So that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance,

He sent redemption to His people;

He has commanded His covenant forever.

Confident of His redeeming love, let us confess our sins to our gracious God.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life

Amen

God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. As you believe, so let it be. By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . **Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be delivered from all evil. Restore us through the Passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son, who gave Himself into death – even death on a cross – for us, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

AMEN

Behold, My servant shall act wisely; He shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you – His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind – so shall He sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of Him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of My people? And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for sin, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the righteous one, My servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

⁷In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence. ⁸Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

Please stand

GOSPEL VERSE

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 19:16b-22

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord. (*sung*)

^{16b}So they took Jesus, ¹⁷and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn

"There is a Green Hill Far Away"

LBW #114

There is a green hill far away, Outside a city wall
Where the dear Lord was crucified, Who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell, What pains he had to bear,
But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven; He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heav'n, Saved by his precious blood.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Prayers

Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole Body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers that we offer before You for all Your servants in Your Holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, our president; the Congress of the United States; our governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your Holy Church; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty and everlasting God, King of glory and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; Lord in Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ, that through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

Hymn

"The Old Rugged Cross" (Verse 1 & 2)

On a hill far away stood an Old Rugged Cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

So I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

To the Old Rugged Cross, I will ever be true;
It's shame and reproach, gladly bear;
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

And I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown

(The congregation leaves in silence)