



Good Friday

April 10, 2020

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OUR ONLINE IN-HOME WORSHIP SERVICE

Thank you for joining us today for this online, in-home worship service. The words of this service will be provided on screen as you worship with us, but printing out copies of this service will allow you to ponder the words we say perhaps a few moments after they leave the screen, or even in the hours or days that follow. Printing off or providing digital copies for your children who can read or are learning to read will help them engage in the Word and promises of God.

Before watching, it may be helpful to remove distractions from the room such as pets, loud toys, etc. Parents might explain to children that we will be worshipping Jesus while the video is playing, listening and responding just like we usually do at church. It might feel a little odd at first to worship this way, but if you explain the situation beforehand, you can expect better participation in your home.

ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY

Darkness descended on the world that day as God draped creation in the darkness of mourning. For the Light of the world was flickering out; the great Prince of the heavenly kingdom was dying. Though guiltless, he was tortured and cursed; though innocent, he died among criminals. Who could ever call this day “good?” Only those who know the truth of the cross:

*Sing my tongue the glorious battle;
Sing the ending of the fray.
Now above the cross, the trophy,
Sound the loud triumphant lay.
Tell how Christ, the world's Redeemer,
As a victim won the day.*

Venantius Fortunatus (†609AD), Christian Worship #122

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord Jesus, how do we thank you? Where do we start? Bless us, we pray, as we reflect on your work of accomplishing our Salvation. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020

Please Stand

The Gospel According to St. John, the 19th Chapter

¹⁷Carrying his own cross, he went out to what is called the Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him with two others, one on each side, and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹Pilate also had a notice written and fastened on the cross. It read, “Jesus the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.”

²⁰Many of the Jews read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek.

²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’”

²²Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

²³When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier. They also took his tunic, which was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴So they said to one another, “Let’s not tear it. Instead, let’s cast lots to see who gets it.” This was so that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says:

They divided my garments among them
and cast lots for my clothing.

So the soldiers did these things.

²⁵Jesus’ mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross.

²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son!” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother!” And from that time this disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, “I thirst.”

²⁹A jar full of sour wine was sitting there. So they put a sponge soaked in sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished!” Then, bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

Please Be seated



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



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



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



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

RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 22:1-21

The Messiah's Plea

Minister: ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
My groaning does nothing to save me.
² My God, I call out by day, but you do not answer.
I call out by night, but there is no relief for me. *(pause)*

God's Help in the Past

Congregation: ³ Yet you are seated as the Holy One, praised by Israel.

⁴ In you our fathers trusted.

They trusted and you delivered them.

⁵ They cried out to you, and they were rescued.

They trusted in you, and they were not disappointed. *(pause)*

God's Present Absence

Minister: ⁶ But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by men and despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me. They sneer.

They shake their heads.

⁸ They say, "Trust in the LORD."

"Let the LORD deliver him.

Let him rescue him, if he delights in him." *(pause)*

The Mutual Love of Father and Son

Congregation: ⁹ But you are the one who brought me out of the belly.

You made me trust when I was at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰ I was cast on you from the womb.

From the belly of my mother you have been my God.

¹¹ Do not be distant from me, for distress is near,

and there is no one to help. *(pause)*

The Power of His Enemies

Minister: ¹² Many bulls surround me.

Strong bulls from Bashan encircle me.

¹³ Enemies open their mouths wide against me,
like a lion that tears its prey and roars.

¹⁴ Like water I am poured out.

All my bones are pulled apart.

My heart has become like wax.

It has melted in the middle of my chest.

¹⁵ My strength is dried up like broken pottery,
and my tongue is stuck to the roof of my mouth.

You lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded me.

A band of evil men has encircled me.
They have pierced my hands and my feet.
¹⁷I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me.
¹⁸They divide my garments among them.
For my clothing they cast lots. (*pause*)

The Greater Power of God

Congregation: ¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be distant.

O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

²⁰Deliver my life from the sword,
my only life from the power of the dog.

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion.
From the horns of the wild oxen you have answered me.

SOLO

“Jesus Died My Soul To Save”
The song will be sung by the soloist.

SERMON

Matthew 27:45-50

⁴⁵From the sixth hour until the ninth hour, there was darkness over all the land.

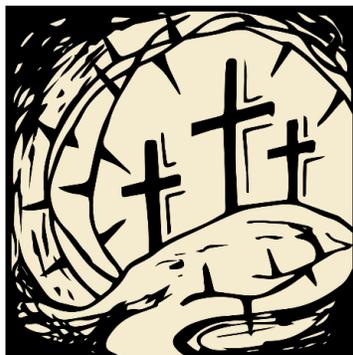
⁴⁶About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*” which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

⁴⁷When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “This fellow is calling for Elijah.”

⁴⁸Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. ⁴⁹The rest said, “Leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

⁵⁰After Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

The Greatest Battle Ever Fought



HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Christian Worship #104



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; View the Lord of
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see.
 life ar - raigned. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from his
 Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, you are a just God who accepts nothing less than perfection. All too often we fail to realize how much 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: Teach us to look to you as the only one who can make us just and right.

M: Today we are 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 that 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 your 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: Give us the courage to face death, knowing that it is the gate to our home in heaven.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we offer our personal thanks for the forgiveness that you have given us and for the home that you have won for us.

Silent prayer

M: The cross was once an instrument of death. It is now a sign of life.

C: Dear Savior, we humbly kneel at the cross in awe of your power and of your love. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

The Stone

You are invited to listen and meditate on the words of the closing song.

1. The stone is rolled to seal the grave,
the soldiers stand to guard the door;
the years of hope, the hearts of faith,
cold as the tomb, dead as their Lord.
2. The tears of anger and regret,
the cock has crowed, the traitor fled;
disciples frightened and confused,
where once was peace, now only dread.
3. Where can they go, where can they run?
His words were true, eternal life;
yet even Christ has felt death's sting,
sin's curse extinguishing love's light.
4. We stand with them, with the bereaved,
stand with the broken, torn and bruised;
we hold our doubts, our tears, our pain,
and, by our nails, hold to the truth.
5. There is a sun we cannot see,
a resurrection yet to dawn,
a hope that holds us through the night,
a path that leads to Easter morn.

*With the song ending, you are encouraged to spend a few minutes in
silent contemplation on the cross of Christ.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Liturgist: Pastor Dave Backus
Preacher: Pastor Dave Pries
Soloist: Gretchen Kinnard

Were You There

African-American spiritual, 19th century, abr. [Christian Worship #119](#) Public Domain.

Jesus Died My Soul To Save

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Go To Dark Gethsemane

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The Stone

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Holy Bible

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