

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

April 19, 2019

Silence for Pondering Our Lord's Passion

Bell Toll

Opening Hymn

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Christian Worship 120 v 1-2

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,

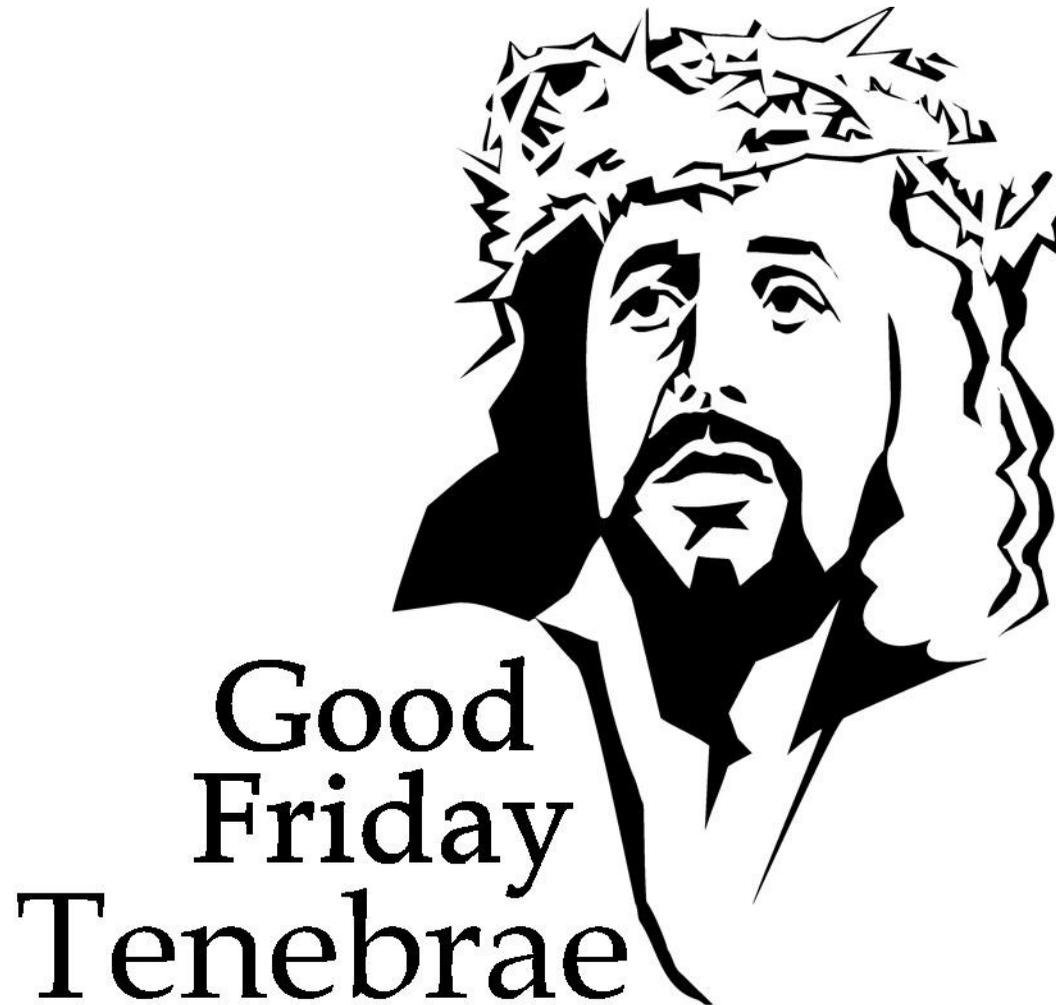
When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown For my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

Tenebrae Service

Tenebrae is the Latin word for “darkness”. The Tenebrae Service follows an ancient church custom in which lights are extinguished one by one as the service proceeds. The service begins and ends in quietness and semi-darkness. Our attention is drawn to the events of Good Friday by means of a series of meditations on the seven words Jesus spoke from the cross. The silence, the solemnity of the occasion, the darkness of the service setting and the meditations bring to heart and mind by Word and symbol the sober and serious closing hours of the Passion, Christ's innocent sufferings and death on our behalf. Come, let us contemplate the extinguishing of our Savior's life on the cross.



The Invocation

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

Congregation: Amen.

The Responsive Reading from Psalm 22

Pastor/**Congregation**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, **so far from the words of my groaning?** O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, **by night, and am not silent.** But I am a worm and not a man, **scorned by men and despised by the people.** All who see me mock me; **they hurl insults, shaking their heads:** “He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. **Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.**” From birth I was cast upon you; **from my mother’s womb you have been my God.** Do not be far from me, **for trouble is near and there is no one to help.** Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. **Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.** I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. **My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.** My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; **you lay me in the dust of death.** Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, **they have pierced my hands and my feet.** I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me. **They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.** But you, O LORD, be not far off; **O my Strength, come quickly to help me.**

Hymn

“Were You There”

Christian Worship 119 v 1 & 3

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?

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?

The Seven Words from the Cross: Love Letters from the Cross

*Mr. Westphal will read heart-felt letters addressed to Jesus.
Pastor Zuberbier will respond with letters in the words of Jesus.*

I. The Word of Forgiveness

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Luke 23:34

Hymn

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

Christian Worship 127

All

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!
‘Tis the Christ, by man rejected; Yes, my soul, ‘tis he ‘tis he.
‘Tis the long expected Prophet, David’s Son, yet David’s Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: ‘Tis the true and faithful Word.

Women

Tell me, as you hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?
Friends through fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress,
Many hands were raised to wound him, none would intervene to save,
But the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Justice gave.

Men

If you think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great,
Here you see its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed; see who bears the awful load –
‘Tis the Word, the Lord’s Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

All

Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost;
Christ’s the Rock of our salvation, His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt –
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

II. The Word of Assurance

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

Luke 23:43

Hymn

“There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood”

Christian Worship 112 v 1-3, 5

There is a fountain filled with blood Immanuel was slain
And sinners who are washed therein
Lose ev’ry guilty stain, Lose ev’ry guilty stain.

The dying thief rejoiced to see That Fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away, Washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood Shall never lose its pow’r
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved and sin no more, Be saved and sin no more.

When this poor lispings, stamm’ring tongue Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I’ll sing your pow’r to save, I’ll sing your pow’r to save.

III. The Word of Concern

“Woman, behold your son; behold your mother.”

John 19:26-27

Hymn

“Jesus, Loving to the End”

The Lutheran Hymnal 182

Jesus, loving to the end Her whose heart Thy sorrows rend,
And thy dearest human friend Hear us, Holy Jesus.

May we in Thy sorrow share, For Thy sake all peril dare,
And enjoy Thy tender care: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

May we all Thy loved ones be, All one holy family,
Loving for the love of Thee Hear us, Holy Jesus.

IV. The Word of Desolation

“My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?”

Mark 15:33-34

Hymn

“Upon the Cross Extended”

Christian Worship 113 v 1-4

All Upon the cross extended; See, world, your Lord suspended;
Your Savior yields his breath. The Prince of life from heaven
Himself has freely given To shame and blows and bitter death.

Men How God at our transgression To anger gives expression,
How loud his thunders roll, How fearfully he smites him,
How sorely he requites him—All this your suff’rings teach my soul.

Women ‘Tis I who should be smitten, My doom should here be written
Bound hand and foot in hell. The fetters and the scourging, The floods
around you surging, ‘Tis I who have deserved them well.

All A crown of thorns you’re wearing, My shame and scorn you’re bearing
That I might ransomed be. My bonds-man, ever willing,
My place with patience filling, From sin and guilt has made me free.

V. The Word of Fulfillment

“I am thirsty.”

John 19:28

Hymn

“Jesus, in Thy Thirst and Pain”

The Lutheran Hymnal 184

Jesus, in Thy thirst and pain, While Thy wounds Thy lifeblood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain: Hear us, Holy Jesus

Thirst for us in mercy still, All Thy holy work fulfill,
Satisfy Thy loving will; Hear us Holy Jesus.

May we thirst Thy love to know; Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the Healing waters flow; Hear us, Holy Jesus.

VI. The Word of Triumph

"It is finished."

John 19:30a

Hymn

"Oh, Perfect Life of Love"

Christian Worship 138 v 1-3

Oh, 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.

VII. The Word of Committal

"Father, into your hand I commit my spirit."

Luke 23:46

Hymn

"Jesus, All Thy Labor Vast"

The Lutheran Hymnal 186

Jesus, all Thy labor vast, All Thy woe and conflict past,
Yielding up Thy soul at last: Hear us, holy Jesus.

When the death shades round us lower, Guard us from the Tempter's power,
Keep us in that trial hour: Hear us, holy Jesus.

May Thy life and death supply Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

Christian Worship 129

Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my Sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?

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

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

Thus might I hide my blushing face While his dear cross appears.
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt my eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away – 'Tis all that I can do.

The Burial of Our Lord

WE EXIT THE CHURCH IN SOMBER SILENCE

These special Good Friday bulletin covers are given to the glory of our crucified LORD by Jerry and Diane Fricken.

Pastor Rev. Michael J. Zuberbier
Organist Mr. Phil Otto
Reader Mr. Randall Westphal