

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church April 2, 2021 Good Friday

Our service is an adaptation of the ancient Tenebrae service, dating from the 18th Century. "Tenebrae" means "shadows" or "darkness." As the Traditional Seven Last Words of Christ are read, the fading light symbolizes the ebbing life of the Lord, the darkness of sin and death prevailing for a time. Silence is observed at points throughout the service to allow for individual reflection on the mysteries of the crucifixion and its meaning for our lives. The Bidding Prayers, ancient prayers for the whole family of God, move our attention to the church and the world as we struggle with the same forces of darkness. Finally, we carry in the cross, the instrument and symbol of deliverance through our victorious Christ.

 ∞ After the service, please leave the service quietly. ∞

Good Friday Tenebrae Service – April 2, 2021

Worship Assistant	Susan Pritchett	Zoomster	Peggy Huckabaa

In the name of the Crucified and risen Christ we welcome all to our worship this evening. At each time of meditation, we will share in one minute of guiet.

Silence Please

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God,

C: look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

READING Isaiah 53: 3-12 Please read responsively.

³He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

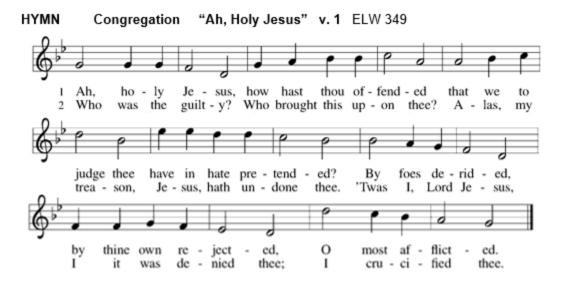
⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him

the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.



THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

The First Word

P: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they are doing." Luke 23: 34a

READING Psalm 51:10-17

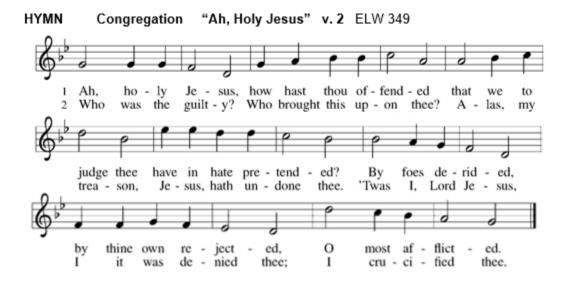
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. ¹⁵O LORD, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. ¹⁶For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. ¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Meditation

Prayer on the First Word from the Cross

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty God, your crucified Son prayed for the forgiveness of those who did not know what they were doing. Grant that we, too, may be included in that prayer. Be merciful to us and grant us your acceptance and peace: in the name of Jesus Christ, our suffering Savior. Amen



The Second Word

A: "Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" Luke 23: 43

READING John 14:1-3

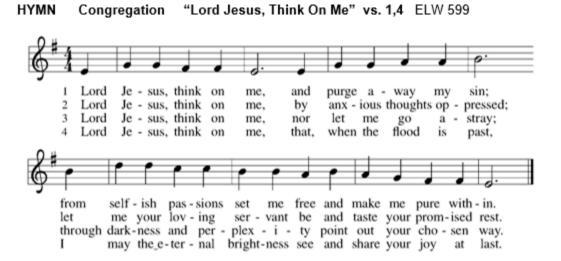
Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

Meditation

Prayer on the Second Word from the Cross

A: Let us pray,

C: Lord Jesus Christ, you promised to the repentant the joy of paradise. Enable us by the Holy Spirit to repent and to receive your grace in this world and in the world to come.



The Third Word

P: "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother "Woman, here is your son. Then he said to his disciple, "Here is your mother."

John 19: 26-27a

READING Mark 3:31-35

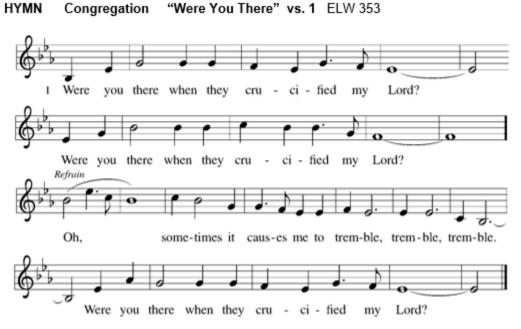
³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." ³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Meditation

Prayer on the Third Word from the Cross

P: Let us pray

C: Blessed Savior, in your hours of greatest suffering, you expressed compassion for your mother and made arrangements for her care. Grant that we who seek to follow your example may show our concern for the needs of others, reaching out to provide for those who suffer in our human family. Amen.



The Fourth Word

A: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27: 46b

READING Psalm 22:1-19

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest. ³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. ⁴In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. ⁵To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people. ⁷All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads; ⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver — let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast. ¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God. ¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; ¹³they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion. ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; ¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death. ¹⁶For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled; ¹⁷I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me; ¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots. ¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

Meditation

Prayer on the Fourth Word from the Cross

A: Let us pray,

C: Almighty God, on the cross your Son carried the cruelty and judgment of the world. Grant us, the grace to know and believe that we will never be forsaken, that he is present with us even to the end of the age: for the sake of Jesus Christ who bore our sins. Amen.

HYMN Congregation "Lamb of God" by Twila Paris

Your only Son no sin to hide But You have sent Him from Your side To walk upon this guilty sod And to become the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

Chorus:

Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God I love the Holy Lamb of God Oh wash me in His precious Blood My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died But You have brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and rod And to be call a lamb of God

(Chorus)
Oh wash me in His precious Blood
My Jesus Chris the Lamb of God

The Fifth Word

P: "I am thirsty" John 19: 28b

READING Isaiah 55:1-3

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

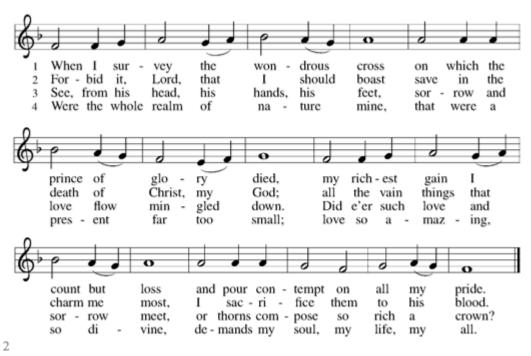
Meditation

Prayer on the Fifth Word from the Cross

P: Let us pray,

C: Blessed Savior, your lips were dry and your throat was parched. Give us the water of life that our thirst may be quenched by your love and mercy. Send us out to bring the same relief to others.

HYMN Congregation "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" vs. 1,4 ELW 803



The Sixth Word

A: "It is finished" John 19:30a

READING Luke 13: 31-32

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.

Meditation

Prayer on the Sixth Word from the Cross

A: Let us pray,

C: Lord Jesus Christ, you finished the work that you were sent to do. Enable us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful to our call. Grant us strength to take up our crosses and do your will. Empower us to live and love so faithfully that we also become

good news to the world. Amen.

HYMN Congregation "On My Heart Imprint Your Image" ELW 811



The Seventh Word

P: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" Luke 23: 46a

READING Luke 2: 25-32

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

Meditation

Prayer on the Seventh Word from the Cross

A: Let us pray,

A: Father, into your hands Jesus commended his spirit. Grant that we too, following his example, may in all of life and at the moment of death entrust our lives into your faithful loving hands. In the name of Jesus who gave his life for us all.

C: Amen.

HYMN Congregation "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" vs. 4 ELW 351



Silence is kept by all.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

P: Let us pray brother and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship in peace and tranquility.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for Bishop Eaton and Bishop Strickland, for our pastors and other ministers, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors and our leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and help each of us to do faithfully the work which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those preparing for Baptism, that God will make them responsive to his love, and give them new life in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you continually bless the Church with new members. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for Baptism. Give them a new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who share faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one Church all those who know Christ as Lord.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you give your Church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your Church that the people you made your own may arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way of salvation.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the Gospel. Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your Godhead, and so to become the perfect witnesses for your love in the sight of all the people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may see The One who is the author and goal of our existence.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through

Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

Silent prayer.

A: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Please speak whichever version, in whatever language, you prefer.)

P: Let us pray together as Jesus taught us:

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Silence

(The bell tolls 33 times, representing Jesus' 33 years)

PROCESSION AND ADORATION OF THE CROSS

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

A: Behold the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

A period of silence is kept.

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The congregation departs in silence.

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Our Welcoming Statement

As an inclusive congregation, we welcome all into God's love and grace without regard to:

Ability • Age • Beliefs • Culture • Ethnicity • Gender • Identity • Income • Language Life Circumstances • Marital Status • Race • Sexual Orientation

As God's grace welcomes all, we are united in Christ.

The mission statement of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is:

We seek to demonstrate God's grace, to learn and grow in Christian faith, and to serve with humility.