

April 3, 2026
Good Friday – Tenebrae Vespers



Zion Lutheran Church

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May God bless your worship with us this evening. A new day of salvation!

Welcome! We worship the Triune God: Father, Son, & Holy Spirit. We are pleased you are here to worship with us today. Make yourself at home; you are among the family of Christ. If you are visiting, please do introduce yourself to others and to our Pastor. Please sign our Guest Book in the narthex so we can thank you for your visit...and come soon to see us again!

To Stand or Sit: There are certain parts of the service where you will be invited to stand. Sometimes, “wrestling” with kids, or a personal health condition makes standing uncomfortable...please know: It is okay to stand or sit.

The congregation and Pastor enter in silence.

Stand

Opening Versicles

- P O Lord, open my lips,
C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Sit

Psalmody

Psalm 2

Psalm 2

- L A reading from Psalm, chapter 2.

- ¹Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
²The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,
³“Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast away their cords from us.”
⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.
⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
⁶“As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”
⁷I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.
⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.
⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
¹¹Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.
¹²Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,

for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

A candle is extinguished

Psalm 51

Psalm 51

L A reading from Psalm, chapter 51.

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
- ³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.
- ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- ⁶Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
- ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
- ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

- ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
- ¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- ¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;
- ¹⁹then will you delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.
C **Thanks be to God.**

A candle is extinguished

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

sts. 1–3



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
How doth Thy face now lan-guish That once was bright as morn!
Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

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Tune: Public domain

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, the 19th chapter.

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶When the chief

priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” ⁷The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” ⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” ¹¹Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

A candle is extinguished.

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

sts. 4–7



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.
5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;
7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?
Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.



Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,
When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.
But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

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Tune: Public domain

Stand

¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

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.”

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

“They divided my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” ²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³²So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

A candle is extinguished.

Responsory

P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.
C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
P Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is put away.
C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.
C **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Sit

Children's Message

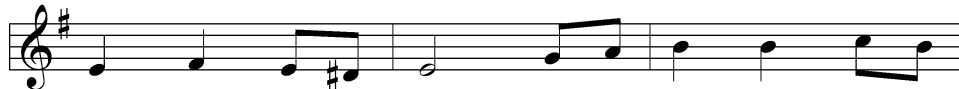
451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Prop - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, 1850, Paderborn

Text and tune: Public domain

A candle is extinguished

Sermon “New Death” (John 19:17-30)

Offering

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

A candle is extinguished

Stand

Prayers

- P Lord, have mercy.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P Christ, have mercy.
C **Christ, have mercy.**
- P Lord, have mercy.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- 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.**
- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C Amen.

P Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord’s passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The final candle is extinguished as the lit Christ Candle leaves the sanctuary.

A loud noise is heard signifying the moment of Christ's death, or the closing of the tomb.

The Christ Candle returns to the front of the sanctuary symbolizing the light of Christ that death cannot overcome.

The congregation leaves in silence and minimal light.

Acknowledgments

Good Friday, Tenebrae Vespers from Lutheran Service Book
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HOLY WEEK SERVICES
Zion will be holding services as follows: Easter Sunrise, April 5th @ 6:30 am, Easter Morning, April 5th @ 9:00 am with Easter Breakfast at 7:30 am.

| WORSHIP SERVANTS | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | ELDER | GREETERS | USHERS | READER | ORGANIST |
| APRIL 3 <i>Good Friday</i> | Jerry Knafla | Ginny Fitch | Bruce & Gloria Thom | Sheldon Prozinski | Peggy Roe |
| APRIL 5 <i>6:30 a.m.</i> <i>Easter Sunrise</i> | Sheldon Prozinski | Angie Metteer | Wayne & Bing Ganz | Amanda Dawson | Carol Prozinski |
| APRIL 5 <i>9:00 a.m.</i> <i>Easter Morning</i> | Craig Bohnsack | Sue Prozinski & Ellen Grisson | Al Prozinski & Nick Prozinski | Doug Wilde | Carol Prozinski |
| APRIL 12 <i>(ASL)</i> | Chris Roe | Kay Steffen | Eugene Doucette & Dennis Hollermann | Barb Jelinski | Carol Prozinski |
| APRIL 19 | Greg Rausch | Ginny Fitch | William Edin & Spencer Roe | Amanda Dawson | Peggy Roe |
| APRIL 26 <i>Blended</i> | Jerry Knafla | Angie Metteer | Bruce & Gloria Thom | Doug Wilde | Peggy Roe |

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