

# Good Friday *Tenebrae Service*



April 2, 2021

Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church

8470 Landen Drive Maineville, Ohio

## GOOD FRIDAY: SERVICE OF DARKNESS

### *Tenebrae*

#### **STAND**

#### **GOSPEL**

**M:** A reading from the Gospel of St. John:

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck him in the face.

Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!"

But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him."

The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."

When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?"

Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar."

When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour.

"Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews.

But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!"

"Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked.

"We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

Carrying his own cross, Jesus went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.”

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

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

“Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.”

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, “They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.” So this is what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*BE SEATED*

## PSALM 2

**M:** (*Antiphon*) The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

**M:** Why do the nations conspire

**C:** **And the peoples plot in vain?**

**M:** The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together

**C:** **Against the LORD and against his Anointed One.**

**M:** "Let us break their chains," they say, "And throw off their fetters."

**C:** **The One enthroned in heaven laughs; The Lord scoffs at them.**

**M:** Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

**C:** **"I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."**

**M:** I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

**C:** **He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father.**

**M:** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance,

**C:** **The ends of the earth your possession.**

**M:** You will rule them with an iron scepter;

**C:** **You will dash them to pieces like pottery."**

**M:** Therefore, you kings, be wise;

**C:** **Be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

**M:** Serve the LORD with fear

**C:** **And rejoice with trembling.**

**M:** Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way,  
for his wrath can flare up in a moment.

**C:** **Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

**M:** (*Antiphon*) The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

*The first candle is extinguished.*

*Silence for meditation*

**PSALM 22:1-21**

**M:** (*Antiphon*) They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

**M:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**C:** **Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?**

**M:** My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,

**C:** **By night, and am not silent.**

**M:** Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;

**C:** **You are the praise of Israel.**

**M:** In you our fathers put their trust;

**C:** **They trusted and you delivered them.**

**M:** They cried to you and were saved;

**C:** **In you they trusted and were not disappointed.**

**M:** But I am a worm and not a man,

**C:** **Scorned by men and despised by the people.**

**M:** All who see me mock me;

**C:** **They hurl insults, shaking their heads:**

**M:** “He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.

**C:** **Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”**

**M:** Yet you brought me out of the womb;

**C:** **You made me trust in you even at my mother’s breast.**

**M:** From birth I was cast upon you;

**C:** **From my mother’s womb you have been my God.**

**M:** Do not be far from me,

**C:** **For trouble is near and there is no one to help.**

**M:** Many bulls surround me;

**C:** **Strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.**

**M:** Roaring lions tearing their prey

**C:** **Open their mouths wide against me.**

**M:** I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.

**C:** **My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

**M:** My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

**C:** **You lay me in the dust of death.**

**M:** Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me,

**C:** **They have pierced my hands and my feet.**

**M:** I can count all my bones;

**C:** **People stare and gloat over me.**

**M:** They divide my garments among them

**C:** **And cast lots for my clothing.**

**M:** But you, O LORD, be not far off;

**C:** **O my Strength, come quickly to help me.**

**M:** Deliver my life from the sword,

**C:** **My precious life from the power of the dogs.**

**M:** Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;

**C:** **Save me from the horns of the wild oxen.**

**M:** (*Antiphon*) They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

*The second candle is extinguished.*

*Silence for meditation*

## **PSALM 27**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? <sup>2</sup>When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. <sup>3</sup>Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. <sup>4</sup>One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.

**Sung: God my Savior and my Light Keeps me safe from dreadful fright.  
God my Savior and my Light – May I serve him day and night.  
God my Savior and my Light Watches with protecting might.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. <sup>6</sup> Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD. <sup>7</sup> Hear my voice when I call, O LORD; be merciful to me and answer me. <sup>8</sup> My heart says of you, “Seek his face!” Your face, LORD, I will seek. <sup>9</sup>Do not hide your face from me,

**Sung: God my Savior and my Light Keeps me safe within his sight.  
God my Savior and my Light Answers me from heaven’s height.  
Let me see your face aright, God my Savior and my Light!**

Do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, O God my Savior. <sup>10</sup>Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. <sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. <sup>12</sup> Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing out violence. <sup>13</sup>I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. <sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

**Sung: God my Savior and my Light Keeps me safe from dreadful fright.  
God my Savior and my Light Watches with protecting might.  
God my Savior and my Light – May I serve him day and night!**

*The third candle is extinguished.  
Silence for meditation*

## **SEEK THE LORD**

### *Quaerite Dominum*

Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
    call upon him while he is near.  
Let the wicked forsake his way  
    and the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him,  
    and to our God, for he will freely pardon.  
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
    neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.  
“As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
    so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
As the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
    and do not return to it without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
    so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,  
so is my word that goes out from my mouth:  
    It will not return to me empty;  
but will accomplish what I desire  
    and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

*Silence for meditation*



***STAND***

**HYMN: “Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle” (CW 122)**

**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.**

**Tell how, when at length the fullness  
Of th’ appointed time was come,  
He, the Word, was born of woman,  
Left for us his Father’s home,  
Blazed the path of true obedience,  
Shone as light amidst the gloom.**

**Thus, with thirty years accomplished,  
He went forth from Nazareth,  
Destined, dedicated, willing,  
Did his work and met his death;  
Like a lamb he humbly yielded  
On the cross his dying breath.**

**Faithful cross, true sign of triumph,  
Be for all the noblest tree;  
None in foliage, none in blossom,  
None in fruit your equal be,  
Symbol of the world’s redemption,  
For your burden makes us free.**

**Unto God be praise and glory;  
To the Father and the Son,  
To th’ eternal Spirit honor  
Now and evermore be done—  
Praise and glory in the highest  
While the timeless ages run.**

***BE SEATED***

## LAMENTATIONS 1:1-5

How deserted lies the city, once so full of people!  
How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations!  
She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave.

Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are upon her cheeks.  
Among all her lovers there is none to comfort her.  
All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies.

After affliction and harsh labor, Judah has gone into exile.  
She dwells among the nations; she finds no resting place.  
All who pursue her have overtaken her in the midst of her distress.

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to her appointed feasts.  
All her gateways are desolate, her priests groan,  
her maidens grieve, and she is in bitter anguish.

Her foes have become her masters; her enemies are at ease.  
The LORD has brought her grief because of her many sins.  
Her children have gone into exile, captive before the foe.

**M:** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**C:** (*Sung*)

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

## LAMENTATIONS 1:6-9

All the splendor has departed from the Daughter of Zion.  
Her princes are like deer that find no pasture;  
in weakness they have fled before the pursuer.

In the days of her affliction and wandering,  
Jerusalem remembers all the treasures that were hers in days of old.  
When her people fell into enemy hands there was no one to help her.  
Her enemies looked at her and laughed at her destruction.

Jerusalem has sinned greatly and so has become unclean.  
All who honored her despise her nakedness;  
she herself groans and turns away.

Her filthiness clung to her skirts; she did not consider her future.  
Her fall was astounding; there was none to comfort her.  
“Look, O LORD, on my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed.”

**M:** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**C:** (*Sung*)

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

## LAMENTATIONS 1:10-14

The enemy laid hands on all her treasures;  
she saw pagan nations enter her sanctuary—  
those you had forbidden to enter your assembly.

All her people groan as they search for bread;  
they barter their treasures for food to keep themselves alive.  
“Look, O LORD, and consider, for I am despised.”

“Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look around and see.  
Is any suffering like my suffering that was inflicted on me,  
that the Lord brought on me in the day of his fierce anger?”

“From on high he sent fire, sent it down into my bones.  
He spread a net for my feet and turned me back.  
He made me desolate, faint all the day long.

“My sins have been bound into a yoke; by his hands they were woven together.  
They have come upon my neck and the Lord has sapped my strength.  
He has handed me over to those I cannot withstand.”

**M:** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**C:** (*Sung*)

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Your peace be with us, O Jesus!**

## SERMON ON LUKE 23:32-34

<sup>32</sup>Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup>When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

## **SONG OF MARY - MAGNIFICAT**

“My soul glorifies the Lord <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. <sup>53</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful <sup>55</sup>to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers.”

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

*Silence for meditation*

M: Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has exalted him to the highest place and given him the name that is above every name.

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

**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**

## **PSALM 51**

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.  
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin always before me.  
Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.  
Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.  
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.  
Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.  
Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.  
Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of  
your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. You  
do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.  
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not  
despise.

In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; build up the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

***The sixth candle is extinguished. The seventh candle is carried from the chancel.***

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Let us pray.

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over into the hands of the wicked, and to suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Silence for meditation*

*A loud noise (streptitus) representing the rending of Christ's tomb is heard, and the seventh candle is returned to burn in the chancel.*

## **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

**Lord, let at last your angels come; To Abram's bosom bear me home  
That I may die unfearing. And in its narrow chamber keep  
My body safe in peaceful sleep Until your reappearing.  
And then from death awaken me That my own eyes with joy may see,  
O Son of God, your glorious face, My Savior and my Fount of grace.  
Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, my prayer attend,  
And I will praise you without end.**

*The minister exits the chancel.*

*The congregation may remain for prayer and meditation before dispersing quietly.*