



Good Friday

April 3, 2026; Noon & 7 p.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 11:55 a.m. & 6:55 p.m.)

(Assembly enters in silence)

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence the prayer our Savior taught us:

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

Prayer of the Day

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

Let us pray. Almighty God, **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.**

First Station: Jesus is Condemned to Death

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate spoke to the crowd: "What do you wish me to do with the man you call the king of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify

him!" Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So, after flogging Jesus, Pilate handed him over to be crucified.

God did not spare his own Son,
but delivered him up for us all.

Hymn

ELW #338; *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* vs. 1, 3

- 1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.

- 3 I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.

Prayer

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at the hands of sinners and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.

(candle is extinguished)

Second Station: Jesus Takes Up His Cross

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Carrying the cross by himself, Jesus went out to the place called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. 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. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches, and wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and blessing.

The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Hymn

ELW #345; *Jesus I will Ponder Now* vs. 1-2

- 1 Jesus, I will ponder now
on your holy passion;
let your Spirit now endow
me for meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith
may the image cherish
of your suff'ring, pain, and death,
that I may not perish.

- 2 Make me see your great distress,
anguish, and affliction,
bonds and blows and wretchedness
and your crucifixion;
make me see how scourge and rod,
spear and nails, did wound you,
how you died for those, O God,
who with thorns had crowned you.

Prayer

Let us pray. Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.
(candle is extinguished)

Third Station: The Cross is Laid on Simon of Cyrene

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

As they led Jesus away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me **cannot be my disciple.**

The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Hymn

ELW #768; *Lead Me, Guide Me* vs. 1
(text is copyright protected)

Prayer

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.
(candle is extinguished)

Fourth Station: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

A great number of the people followed Jesus, and among them were women who were wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

Hymn

ELW #704: *When Pain of the World* vs. 1-2

- 1 When pain of the world surrounds us with darkness and despair,
when searching just confounds us with false hopes ev'rywhere,
when lives are starved for meaning and destiny is bare,
we are called to follow Jesus and let God's healing flow through us.
- 2 We see with fear and trembling our aching world in need,
confessing to each other our wastefulness and greed.
May we with steadfast caring the hungry children feed.
We are called to follow Jesus and let God's justice flow through us.

Prayer

Let us pray. Teach your church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.
(candle is extinguished)

Fifth Station: Jesus is Stripped of His Garments

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When they came to a place called Golgotha, they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. The soldiers divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

They gave me gall to eat,

and when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.

Hymn

ELW #322; *Oh, Love, How Deep* vs. 1, 5

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,
beyond all thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,
for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
he bore the shameful cross and death;
for us he gave his dying breath.

Prayer

Let us pray. O God, your Son chose the path which led to pain before joy and the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

have mercy and hear us.

(candle is extinguished)

Sixth Station: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Jesus; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, and one on the left. He poured out himself to death, and yet he bore the sin of many.

They pierce my hands and my feet;

they stare and gloat over me.

Hymn

(Noon) ELW #336; *Lamb of God* vs. 1-2

(text is copyright protected)

(7pm) *Who is that Man?* by Don Besig and Nancy Price

St. John's choir

Prayer

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

have mercy and hear us.

(candle is extinguished)

Seventh Station: Jesus Dies on the Cross *(please stand)*

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother." And when Jesus had received the vinegar he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Christ for us became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Hymn

ELW #349; *Ah, Holy Jesus* vs. 1, 3, 5

- 1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

- 3 Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

- 5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Prayer

Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.
(candle is extinguished)

Eighth Station: Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb *(please sit)*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

You will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see corruption.

Hymn

ELW #353; *Were You There* vs. 1, 2, 5

- 1 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?

- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

- 5 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?

Prayer

Let us pray. O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day. Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy and hear us.

(candle is extinguished)

The Solemn Reproaches

Music: Russian Orthodox Traditional; verses by Kevin Anderson

ELW #160; *Holy God*

Refrain:

Holy, holy, holy God, holy and mighty.
Holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Procession of the Cross

(the cross is processed three times with the following petition)

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

Oh, come let us worship him.

Adoration of the Cross

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

(assembly is invited to the cross to make a sign of reverence: bowing, kneeling, touching the cross. Following adoration, assembly departs in silence)

Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Pastor Christine Emerson
Assistant	Timothy Lincoln
Lector	-
Acolytes	(Noon) Emerson Paplow (7pm) Matthew Kording
Ushers	(Noon) Gary Kersten, Norb Kirk (7PM) Doug Hayes, Bryan Sedlander
Greeters	(Noon) Julie Kersten, Brandi Fuchs (7PM) Jean Jirovec, Larry Schaefer
Communion Servers	-
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	(Noon) Lydia Elko (7PM) Lois Mai
Musicians	Linda Ranney, accompanist; Mark Lundin, Director of Music; St. John's Choir

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