



**Christ
Lutheran**
CHURCH

2610 Campbell Street • Valparaiso,
Indiana 46385 • (219) 462-6660
clcvalpo.org • office@clcvalpo.org



GOOD FRIDAY
April 7, 2023
1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

PRELUDE

Ah Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

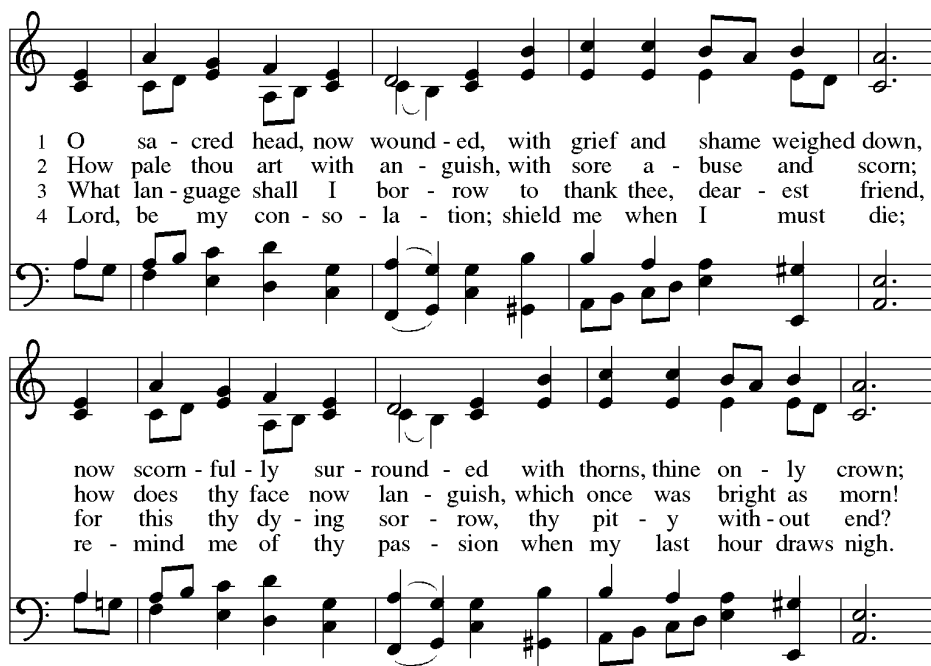
Walcha

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The assembly stands with the presiding pastor.

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.**

GATHERING HYMN #351 *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*



The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) using a grand staff with two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with the bass part providing a harmonic foundation. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

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 lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans-gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

WORD

PSALM 22

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²**O 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.

⁴**In 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.

⁶**But 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.

¹⁰**On 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.

¹²**Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴**I 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.

¹⁶**For 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;

¹⁸**they 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!

²⁰**Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!**

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²**I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴**For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.**

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰**Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the LORD,**

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

**Restless with grief and fear,
the abandoned turn to you:
in every hour of trial,
good Lord, deliver us,
O God most holy, God most strong,
whose wisdom is the cross of Christ.
Amen.**

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

READING

Musical meditation

Jesus in the garden

READING

Musical meditation

Jesus denied by Peter

READING

Musical meditation

Jesus before Pilate

READING*Musical meditation***Jesus goes to Calvary****READING***Musical meditation***Jesus is crucified****READING***Musical meditation***Jesus gives up his spirit****READING***Silence.***The burial****MUSICAL MEDITATION***(7:00 p.m. service only)**At the Cry of the First Bird*

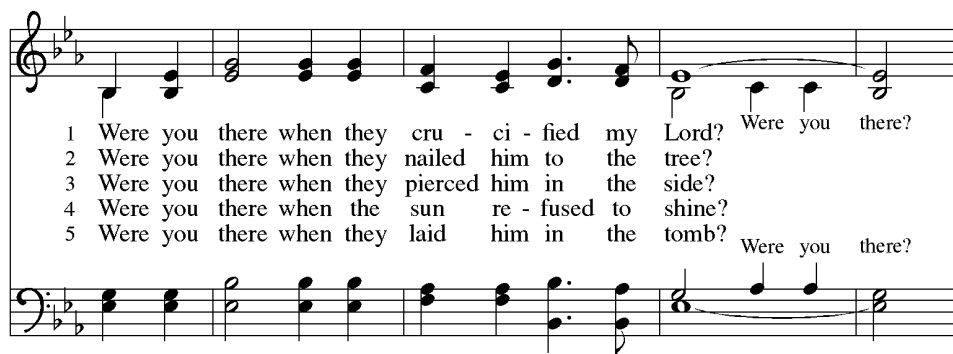
Guion

At the cry of the first bird they began to crucify Thee, they began to crucify Thee. O cheek like a swan! It was not right ever to cease lamenting. It was like the parting of day from night. Ah! Though sore the suffering put upon the body of Mary's Son, sorer to Him was the grief that was upon her for His sake.

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

During this time of music and contemplation, we ponder the gift of the cross. We light candles and place them in the sand as we reflect on the gift of the cross. An usher will NOT direct you; come as you are ready. When we bring our need, our brokenness, our death, God not only receives it in love on the cross – God's glory is shown in turning torture into triumph.

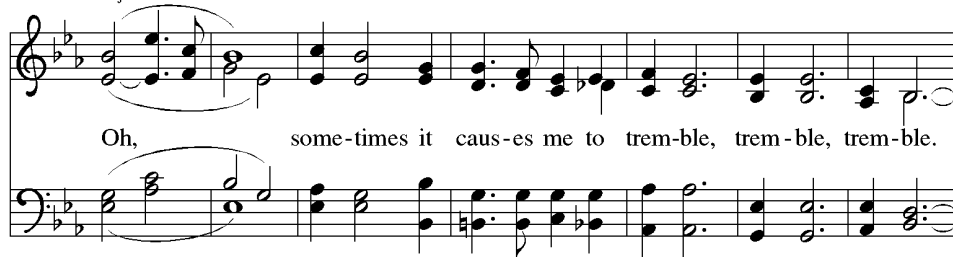
HYMN #353

Were You There


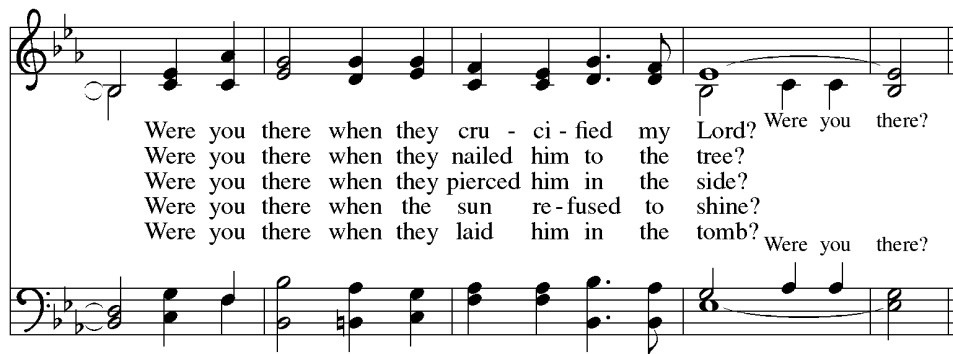
1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain


Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

When all have returned to their seats the assembly stands with the ministers.

LORD'S PRAYER

Children: The Spirit makes us one. We pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**



HYMN #342 *There in God's Garden*



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!"



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

The service ends in silence.

Service Notes

Readers: Sara Long
Magdalena Gibson-Even

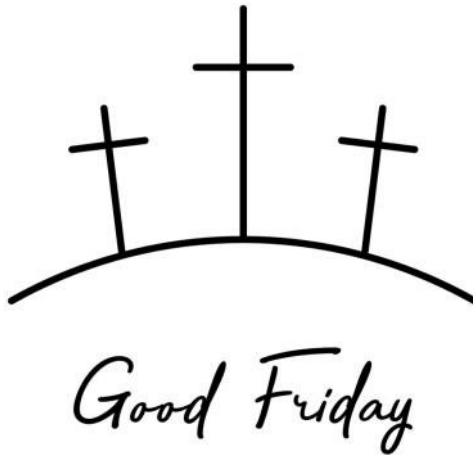
Ushers: Marla Niksch
Joshua Vittitoe

Lights/Sound:

Livestream Tech: Tony Reinhold

Pastors: Rev. Erica Gibson-Even
Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr.

Director of Music Ministries: Brian Bartusch
Worship Participant: Anne Marie Bice, guest soloist





Good Friday is a Christian holiday commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. It is observed during Holy Week as part of the Paschal Triduum, the great three days. It is also known as Holy Friday, Great Friday, Great and Holy Friday, and Black Friday.

HOLY WEEK

All-ages Easter Vigil on Saturday (April 8) - 4:00 p.m.

We keep the ancient tradition, in a family-friendly way. Gather around the fire to hear the stories of God's saving love through the ages, remember the gift of Baptism, and hear the Easter story as we gather around Christ's table.

Easter Sunday - 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. (pre-service music begins at 7:50 a.m. and 10:20 a.m.). Easter Egg Hunt begins at 12:00 p.m.

Festival worship to celebrate the Resurrection! Come celebrate the risen Christ.

Easter Egg Hunt

12:00– Pre-k-k (near the Memorial Garden)

12:10– 1st– 4th grade (out in the field)

12:15– 5th-8th grade (in the woods)

Witnessing to the Truth

When Jesus is interrogated by Pilate, he describes his mission in this way: “For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth” (John 18:37). Even in his terrible suffering and death on a cross, Jesus witnesses to the truth of God’s love, life, and power to the end. Refusing retaliation, Christ reveals to us divine power at work through the vulnerability of suffering love and nonviolence. Crucified as a criminal, Christ demonstrates divine solidarity with all who are persecuted and victimized. Weak and dying on the cross, Christ bears witness to divine presence in the depths of human pain.

Tonight we also bear witness to the false claims and mocking cruelty of those who condemn Jesus to death. Pilate, who has the power to release or condemn Jesus, utterly lacks moral clarity and courage. How might this story serve as a mirror, leading us to reflect on and lament ongoing injustices today, from our broken system of mass incarceration to our pollution and waste of God’s good creation? What lies are told and what cruelty is inflicted against God and our most vulnerable neighbors today?

As we name these truths about our world broken by sin and truths about God’s unfathomable love in Christ, we gather around the cross in our worship spaces as a family formed by Christ, like the ones who stood faithfully by Jesus’ side as he took his last breaths. We pray for the wounded creation, for the sick and dying, for those who find their dignity denied, and more. We pray, placing our hope in the God who yet promises to bring new life. And as we pray, we wait, and we witness to the truth that God is here, abiding with us and hearing our cries.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26201. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Portions printed under OneLicense.net License #A-711129. Stewardship Toolkit, Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard.

Cover art permission by Stushie Art.