



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF DARKNESS





Good Friday

April 2, 2021

7:00 pm

Service of Darkness

Officium Tenebrae

On Good Friday the Church remembers the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. This remembrance is solemn, but not depressing or melancholy. Christians worship on Good Friday to adore the Son of God who offered his life as the Lamb of God.

The Service of Darkness (Latin: *Officium Tenebrae*) began in the medieval church and was added to the worship patterns of Holy Week. The Service of Darkness should not be thought of as a “funeral” for Jesus, but as an austere service of meditation, prayer, adoration, and confession. In lessons and music, we reverently recall the Savior’s last hours on the cross. We confess the sins that caused his suffering and ponder the miracle of divine love that brought about our redemption and forgiveness of sins.

Symbolism in the Service

The progressive darkness recalls the darkness that covered the earth from noon until 3:00 on Good Friday.

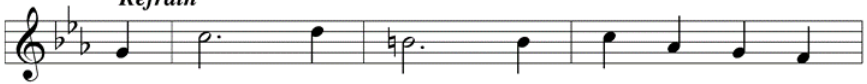
The progressive extinguishing of candles recalls the ebbing of the Savior’s life. Note well that the Pascal candle is lit and returns to the chancel on Sunday: this Savior will live again!

WELCOME AND EXPLANATION OF THE SERVICE

OPENING PSALM

Psalm 22

Refrain



Be - hold the Lamb, be - hold the Lamb of



God, who takes a - way the sin of the world.

Psalm Tone



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me?

**I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by men and despised by the people.**

All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

**“He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.
Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”**

Refrain

My strength is dried up, and my tongue sticks to the roof
of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

**A band of evil men has encircle^d me,
they have pierced my hands and my feet.**

They divide my garments among them
and cast lots for my clothing.

**But you, O LORD, be not far off;
O my Strength, come quickly to help me.**

Refrain

MEDITATION Luke 23:32-34

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

“The Nail-pierced Hands of Jesus”

HYMN

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy | **CW #268**

**1. 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!**

**2. 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!**

**3. 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!**

The Service of Tenebrae

Stand

M: This is the verdict: “Light has come into the world.” Jesus brings spiritual light and life to a world that is dying.

The lighting of the candles.

M: “But people loved darkness instead of light.

C: **Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.”**

M: Sin has thoroughly violated our world.

C: **“Through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death has spread to all men, because all have sinned.”**

M: Sin and death cast their shadow over our lives. Sin induces us to hate and feel abandoned, to live self-involved and self-centered lives, to ignore the words and will of God.

C: **O God, do not let that shadow spread any further. Do not let it cover our world with dark wickedness, despair, and unbelief. “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil!”**

M: “The Prince of this world will be driven out!” But the Son of Man, when he is lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to himself.

Be seated

ENSEMBLE

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

The Seven “Words” from The Cross

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:26-34

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

First Candle Extinguished

HYMN

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted | **CW 127 vv. 1,3**

**1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted See him dying on the tree?
‘Tis the Christ by man rejected; Yes, my soul, ‘tis he ‘tis he.
‘Tis the long-expected Prophet, David’s Son, yet David’s Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it; ‘Tis the true and faithful Word.**

**2. If you think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great,
Here you see its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed; See who bears the awful load—
‘Tis the Word, the Lord’s Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.**

SCRIPTURE**Luke 23:38-43***"I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise."****Second Candle Extinguished*****HYMN** *There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood* | **CW 112 vv. 1,2,5**

- 1. There is a fountain filled with blood--Immanuel was slain--
And sinners who are washed therein
Lose ev'ry guilty stain, Lose every guilty stain.**

- 2. The dying thief rejoiced to see That fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he,
Washed all my sins away, Washed all my sins away.**

- 5. When this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue
Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song
I'll sing your pow'r to save, I'll sing your pow'r to save.**

SCRIPTURE**John 19:25-27***"Woman, here is your son...Here is your mother."****Third Candle Extinguished*****HYMN** *Jesus, Loving to the End* | **TLH 182 vv. 1-3**

- 1. Jesus, loving to the end
Her whose heart your sorrows rend,
And your dearest human friend:
Hear us, holy Jesus!**

- 2. May we in your sorrows share,
For your sake all peril dare,
And enjoy your tender care:
Hear us, holy Jesus!**

- 3. May we all your loved ones be,
All one holy family,
Loving for the love of thee:
Hear us, holy Jesus!**

SCRIPTURE**Matthew 27:45-49***“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”****Fourth Candle Extinguished*****HYMN***Upon the Cross Extended* | **CW 113 v.1-3**

- 1. Upon the cross extended, See, world, your Lord suspended;
Your Savior yields his breath.
The Prince of life from heaven Himself has freely given
To shame and blows and bitter death.**
- 2. How God at our transgression To anger gives expression,
How loud his thunders roll,
How fearfully he smites him, How sorely he requites him—
All this your suff’rings teach my soul.**
- 3. ’Tis I who should be smitten,
My doom should here be written:
Bound hand and foot in hell.
The fetters and the scourging,
The floods around you surging,
’Tis I who have deserved them well.**

SCRIPTURE**John 19:28,29***“I am thirsty.”****Fifth Candle Extinguished*****HYMN***O Dearest Jesus* | **CW 117 vv.1-3**

- 1. O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken
That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?
Of what great crime have you to make confession—
What dark transgression?**
- 2. They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge you;
They give you gall to drink, they still decry you;
They crucify you.**

- 3. Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must languish;
Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you inherit,
This I do merit.**

SCRIPTURE

John 19:30

"It is finished!"

Sixth Candle Extinguished

HYMN

Oh, Perfect Life of Love | CW 138 vv. 1,2,4,5

- 1. Oh, Perfect life of love! All, all is finished now,
All that he left his throne above To do for us below.**
- 2. No work is left undone Of all the Father willed;
His toil, his sorrows, one by one,
The Scriptures have fulfilled.**
- 3. And on his thorn-crowned head And on his sinless soul
Our sins in all their guilt were laid
That he might make us whole.**
- 4. In perfect love he dies; For me he dies, for me!
O all-atoning Sacrifice, You died to make me free!**

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 23:44-46

"Father, into Your hands I entrust My spirit."

Pascal Candle lit/Seventh Candle Extinguished

[Removing the Christ candle signifies the burial of Jesus. As Christ's body was hidden in the grave until the third day, so the candle is removed and hidden for a short time.]

HYMN

Were You There | CW 119 vv.1-2

- 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?**

SCRIPTURE

John 19:31-42

Jesus Is Buried

GIRLS' CHOIR

The Burial | Mary Dorn Lippert

1. Gently, we took His body down,
wrapped the spice and linen 'round our Lord.
Tenderly took the crown of thorn,
from the head that took the scorn; Jesus, our Lord.
2. Mary, and Mary Magdelene,
saw the final bitter scene, of our Lord.
Carefully watched all that was done,
to the Savior and the Son; Jesus our Lord.
3. Love made Him carry all our sin,
and with love we carried Him, our Lord.
In the tomb He laid at rest,
with our tears upon His breast; Jesus our Lord.
4. There was nothing more we could do,
there was no more we could say.
So we covered His dear face,
Rolled the heavy stone in place. Then we walked away.

Return of the Pascal Candle

[The Christ candle is not extinguished at any time during this observance. It is now returned as a reminder that the grave is not the end of the story. Christ will rise on Easter morning to show his victory over the grave!]

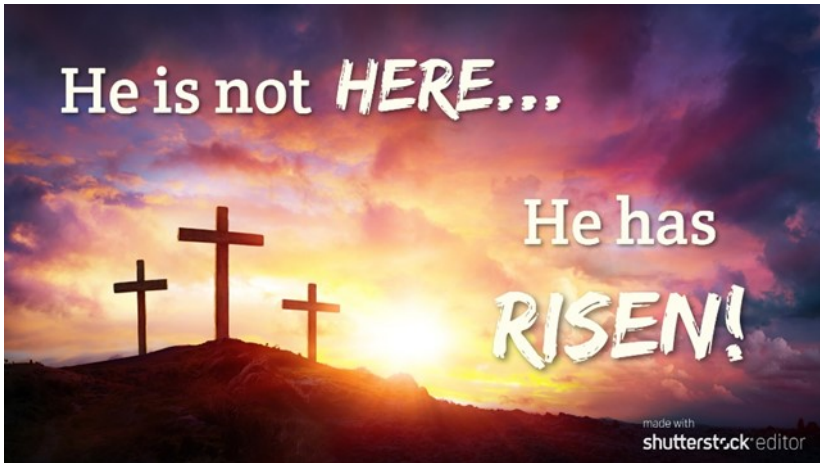
SILENT PRAYER & DEPARTURE

Service notes

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Saint Peter Lutheran Church

Website:	www.saintpeterlutheran.org
Email:	spevluth@hickorytech.net
Phone:	507.931.1866
Church Staff:	
Pastor Jack Kelly	jkelly@saintpeterlutheran.org 224.430.3925
Pastor Justin Heise	heise.justin@gmail.com 920.264.7665
Public Worship	Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Online streamed services	Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
Serving Today:	Worship Leaders— Pastor Jack Kelly, Pastor Justin Heise Piano—Jennie Boeder Instrumentalists—Caitlyn Otto, Nora Grace Otto, Macord Lindstrom, Deena Lindstrom, Ruby Lindstrom, Paige Winkelman, and Stephanie Otto Girls Choir—Ally Peterson, Ruby Lindstrom, Kayla Gurgel, Anya Stoll



We invite you to join us at St. Peter Lutheran Church to hear the message of certain hope, purpose and meaning for life and eternal life in Jesus Christ who died and rose again.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." John 10:25-26

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Easter Sunrise Service | 6:30 a.m.

Easter Festival Services | 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Easter Bake Sale | 7:30 a.m.— 10:30 a.m.

Find all our Holy Week Services on our Facebook page

