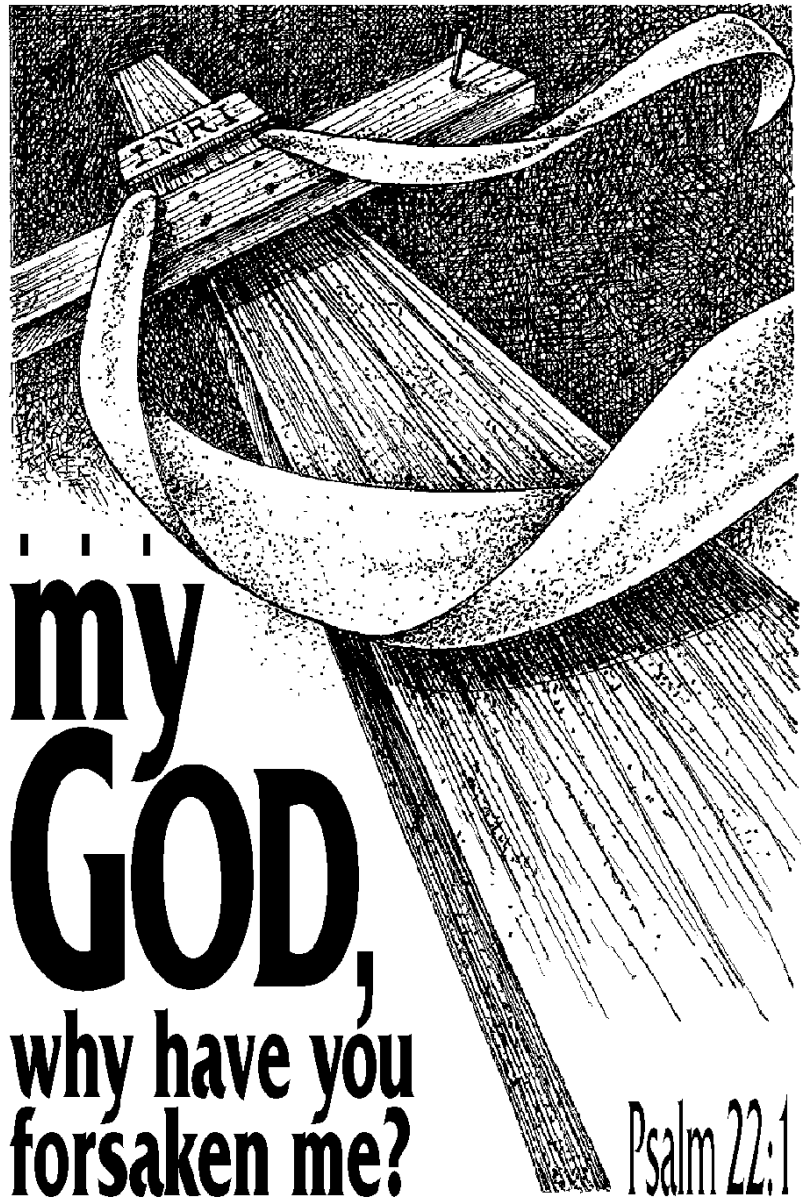


Grace Lutheran Church



Rev. Mark Witte

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**my
GOD,
why have you
forsaken me?**

Psalm 22:1

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

APRIL 10, 2020

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! You will find a red attendance folder at the end of your pew; please sign the form inside and pass it on to those seated next to you; ushers will collect the forms following the last service. Whether you are a first time visitor or have worshipped here often, we invite you to worship with us again.

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE



April 10, 2020

The service begins in silence.

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #451, vv. 1, 4
"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

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.

4. Here we have a firm foundation, Here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, Is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded Who on Him their hope have built.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

Silence

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.

G Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

L The Old Testament Reading for Good Friday is from Isaiah, chapters 52 and 53.

¹³ Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. ¹⁴As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—¹⁵so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

^{53:1} Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every



one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? ⁹And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer Response

P Gracious Lord Jesus, we are beset with many evils as part of our lives each day and without Your aid would be overcome. Deliver us from evil and help us to overcome every obstacle that would keep us from living according to and carrying out Your good and gracious will; in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

L The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapters four and five.

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let

us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

^{5:7} In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer Response

P Let us pray. Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, You have taken our sins in Your own body on the tree of the cross so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness, have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, Your servants, with all others who devoutly remember Your blessed passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and through Your grace eternal glory in the life to come; in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

Gospel Reading

John 19:17-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 19th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many 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. ²¹ So 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.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³ When 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, ²⁴ so 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, ²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." ²⁹ A 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. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon

✠ THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE ✠

I. The First Word

John 19:14-16a, Luke 23:32-34a

P Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They 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."

So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him.

And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. And Jesus said, "***Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.***"

✠ *The first candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #447

"Jesus, in Your Dying Woes" **vv. 1-3**

1. Jesus, in Your dying woes, Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus.
2. Savior, for our pardon sue When our sins Your pangs renew,
For we know not what we do: Hear us, holy Jesus.
3. Oh, may we, who mercy need, Be like You in heart and deed,
When with wrong our spirits bleed: Hear us, holy Jesus.

II. The Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

P And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed

justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” And He said to him, “**Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise**”

✠ *The second candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #447

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” **vv. 4-6**

4. Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near You dies,
Promising him paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus.

5. May we in our guilt and shame Still Your love and mercy claim,
Calling humbly on Your name: Hear us, holy Jesus.

6. May our hearts to You incline And their thoughts Your cross entwine.
Cheer our souls with hope divine: Hear us, holy Jesus.

III. The Third Word

John 19:25-27

P But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “**Woman, behold, your son!**” Then He said to the disciple, “**Behold, your mother!**” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

✠ *The third candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #447

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” **vv. 7-9**

7. Jesus, loving to the end Her whose heart Your sorrows rend,
And Your dearest human friend: Hear us, holy Jesus.

8. May we in Your sorrows share, For Your sake all peril dare,
And enjoy Your tender care: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

9. May we all Your loved ones be, All one holy family,
Loving, since Your love we see: Hear us, Holy Jesus.

IV. The Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45-47

P Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This Man is calling Elijah.”

✘ *The fourth candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #450, **verses 1-3**

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

How pale Thou art with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn!
How doth Thy face now languish That once was bright as morn!
Grim death, with cruel rigor, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered Was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, But Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy favor, And grant to me Thy grace.

V. The Fifth Word

Matthew 10:38-42, John 19:28-29

P And whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. “Whoever receives you receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a

prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "*I thirst.*" A 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.

✘ *The fifth candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #450, **verses 4, 5**

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

My Shepherd, now receive me; My Guardian, own me Thine.
Great blessings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts divine.
Thy lips have often fed me With words of truth and love;
Thy Spirit oft hath led me To heav'nly joys above.

What language shall I borrow To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever! And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, Outlive my love for Thee.

VI. The Sixth Word

Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28, John 19:30a

P But when Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the Holy Places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption . . . Therefore He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant . . . And just as it is

appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.

When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ***“It is finished.”***

✠ *The sixth candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #447

“Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” vv. 16-18

16. Jesus, all our ransom paid, All Your Father’s will obeyed;
By Your suff’rings perfect made: Hear us, holy Jesus.

17. Save us in our soul’s distress; Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness: Hear us, holy Jesus.

18. Brighten all our heav’nward way With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day: Hear us, holy Jesus.

VII. The Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-46, Matthew 27:54

P It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, **“Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!”** And having said this He breathed his last.

When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

Prayer

- P** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,
- C** **have mercy.**



P O Lord,
C **have mercy.**

P O Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, who at the sixth hour was raised up on the cross for the redemption of the world, and who did shed Your blood for the forgiveness of all our sins, we pray You, that by the merits of Your holy life, life-giving passion, and death, You may grant to us the privilege of Your mercy to enter into the gates of paradise to dwell with You there in all joy and blessedness, for all eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #436

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” **vv. 1-3**

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
3. Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

✠ *The seventh candle is extinguished after the reading.*

Silence for reflection

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.

✘ *The remaining candle, the Christ candle, is removed in silence.*

P They took Him down from the cross, then gently and tenderly they took His body and carried it to the unused tomb. The Passover being at hand, they went to their homes to keep the ancient feast. Sadness and gloom filled their beings. Him whom they had loved was dead. When the Lord was buried, they made the sepulchre sure; rolling a great stone to the door, sealing the tomb.

✘ ***A loud noise, the “strepitus” is heard signifying the closing of the tomb. It also signifies the punishment that God’s justice required is finished.***

✘ ***The Christ candle returns in anticipation of our Lord’s resurrection.***

P ²⁵ Jesus said to Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

And Jesus said “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”

John 11:25-27, Mark 9:31

We end our worship today in silence with anticipation of the resurrection to come!