



GOOD FRIDAY

IT IS FINISHED

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG**  
**Good Friday, April 18, 2025**  
**1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.**



**WELCOME VISITORS:** We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is

rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

## **AS WE GATHER**

*Christians around the world gather on this solemn day to remember the greatest sacrifice of love the world has ever seen. Even the anticipated celebration of our Lord's resurrection cannot diminish the greatest darkness at the sight of the very Son of God hanging on a cross in our place--stricken, smitten, and afflicted for us and for our salvation, because of our sin. In quiet reflection we ponder the great cost by which we receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.*

## **OPENING HYMN**

***"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"***

**LSB# 425**

## **OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY OF THE SUFFERING AND DEATH OF OUR LORD ISAIAH 53**

**Pastor:** Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

**People:** **He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.**

**Pastor:** He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire him.

**People:** **He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.**

**Pastor:** Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**People:** Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted.

**Pastor:** But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;

**People:** the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.

**Pastor:** We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;

**People:** and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

**Pastor:** He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth;

**People:** He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.

**Pastor:** He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death,

**People:** though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.

**Pastor:** After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied;

**People:** by His knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities.

**Pastor:** Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

**People:** For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

+ THE WORD +

**PSALM OF THE DAY**      *Psalm 22*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.

Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel. In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.

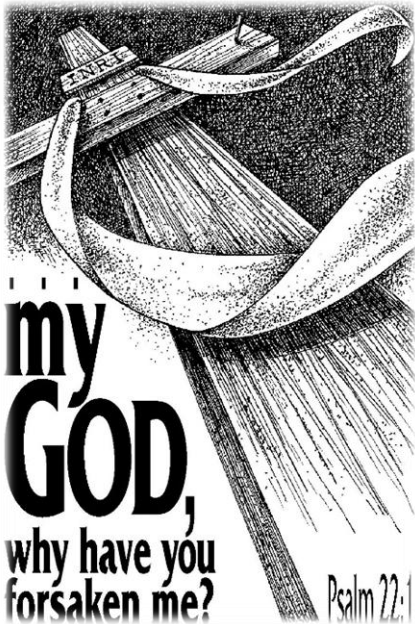
But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast. From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother's womb you have been my God. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.

Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have



pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me. 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. Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs. Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you. You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows. The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the LORD will praise him— may your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations.

All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him— those who cannot keep themselves alive. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn— for he has done it.

## **RESPONSIVE HYMN**

***“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”***      **LSB# 451, vs. 1, 2, 4**

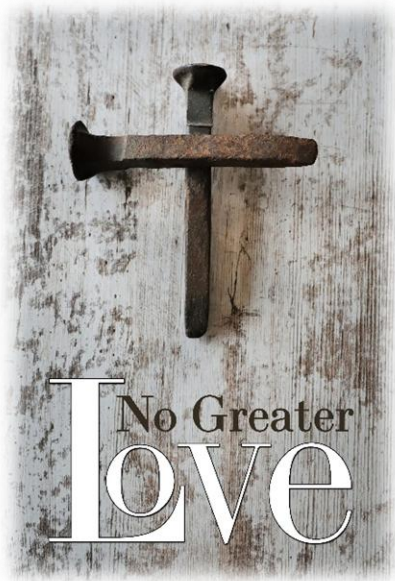
## **EPISTLE**

***Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9***

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with

confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.



### **SERVICE OF DARKNESS**

*Remember the words are short  
because Jesus is dying and He is running out of air.*

#### **FIRST WORD      John 19:14-16a; Luke 23:32-34a**

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.

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. 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. Jesus Said

**People: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."**

**Pastor:** Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace: You did not seek revenge on those who tormented You. Grant

us grace to forgive those who hurt us, to overcome evil with good, to love our enemies for Your sake, and as children of the heavenly Father, seek Your peace, and evermore rejoice in Your love.

**People:** **Fill our hearts, our souls, and our minds with your Spirit. Enlighten us that we may see Your love clearly in the death of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.**

*(The first candle is extinguished)*

**HYMN “The Lamb”**

**LSB #547**

**SECOND WORD    Luke 23:35-43**

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him. They said, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked Him. They offered Him wine vinegar and said, "If You are the king of the Jews, save Yourself." There was a written notice above Him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him,

**People:** **"I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise."**

**SERMON**

***The Conclusion of the Lord's Prayer***

*Pastor: What is the conclusion to the Lord's Prayer*

**People:** **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Pastor: *What does this mean?*

**People:** This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

*(The second candle is extinguished.)*

**HYMN “Lamb of God”**

**LSB# 550**

**THIRD WORD John 19:25-27**

Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother,

**People:** "Woman, here is your son,"

Pastor: and to the disciple,

**People:** "Here is your mother."

Pastor: From that time on, this disciple took her into his home."

Pastor: Lord Jesus, while You suffered the agony of the cross, You remembered in love Your sorrowing mother. With that same love and pity bless all parents, especially those whose hearts are torn by the loss of loved ones or burdened with worry over their children. In Your mercy, gather all within the peace of Your cross, so that parent and child will love each other as they love You.

**People:** With the power of Your Holy Spirit encourage us to strive toward greater unity in our own families and toward unity in the family of believers in Christ Jesus. Amen.

*(The third candle is extinguished)*



## CHORAL RESPONSE

***“O Christ Thou Lamb of God”***

### **FOURTH WORD *Matthew 27:45-47***

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"--which means,

**People: "My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?"**

Pastor: When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

## PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, we do not want to forsake You and flee,

**People: yet, in our daily confusion we sometimes forget you.**

Pastor: Lord, we would never deny You, saying, "I do not know the man!"

**People: but we have avoided opportunities to proclaim Jesus Christ as our Savior from sin.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Your Son cried "Why have You forsaken me?" In time of trial and suffering, do not turn away from us, but give us Your presence and Your power that enable us to endure whatever may be set before us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

*(The fourth candle is extinguished)*

### **FIFTH WORD *Matthew 10:38-42, John 19:28-29***

[Jesus told his disciples,] "Anyone who 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. He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives the one who sent Me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward.

And if anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is My disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

Pastor: Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said,

**People: "I am thirsty."**

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: Lord of life, we know that You provide all we need to support life.

**People: Lord of redemption, reveal the power of Your redeeming love in our daily living.**

Pastor: Lord of love, help us to remember that Your Son suffered and died as one of us, bearing in His body the penalty for the sin we commit.

**People: Lord Jesus Christ, You endured not only spiritual anguish but also physical pain on the cross in our place. We thirst for the healing that only You can provide. Strengthen us to carry our burdens and to endure our sufferings by the grace of Your holy example, always giving You thanks for Your love. Amen.**

*(The fifth candle is extinguished)*

### **SIXTH WORD Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28; John 19:30a**

When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, He went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption... For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that He has died as a ransom to set them

free from the sins committed under the first covenant... Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.

Pastor: When He had received the drink, Jesus said,

**People: "It is finished."**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, in Your death we have life.

**People: Stir up our souls that we may pursue with renewed strength the paths You have laid for us.**

Pastor: Lead and direct us by Holy Bible that we need not grope through the darkness to lay our commitment before You and Your Son, Jesus.

**People: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Author and Finisher of our faith. You did not stop short of finishing the task given to You by Your Father. Complete in us everything You intend for us so that as children of the heavenly Father, we may live for His glory. Amen.**

*(The sixth candle is extinguished)*

### **SEVENTH WORD Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 27:54**

Darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice,

**People: "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit."**

Pastor: When He had said this, He breathed His last.

*(Pause for meditation)*

When the centurion and those with Him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely He was the Son of God!"

## **PRAYER**

**Pastor:** Stir our souls, Lord, that we may pursue with renewed strength the paths You have laid for us.

**People:** Lord Jesus Christ, as You gave Your life on the cross in our place, You commended Your spirit into the loving hands of Your heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. When our last hour comes, grant us peace that we may close our eyes with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever in the hands of our heavenly Father. Amen.

## **HYMN “Were You There”**

**LSB # 456**

*(The seventh candle is extinguished)*

### **LORD'S PRAYER** *(spoken softly by all)*

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

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit be and remain with you always.

**People:** Amen.

## **THE CLOSING OF THE TOMB**

<p><i>The Lights are now dimmed. After the service is ended the congregation is asked to leave in respectful silence.</i></p>
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