

GOOD FRIDAY – April 7, 2023



HIS FINAL STEPS
LED HIM TO THE CROSS



GOOD FRIDAY: SERVICE OF SEVEN WORDS

OPENING ANTHEM

1:00 p.m., Zion Junior Choir

“Amazing Grace-My Chains Are Gone”

7:00 p.m., Opening Hymn: *CW 125 (vs.1-3)*

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

INVOCATION

Pastor: We worship in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

A RESPONSIVE READING FROM ISAIAH 53

P: Who has believed our message:

C: and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

P: Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows:

C: Yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him and afflicted.

P: But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities:

C: The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.

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

C: And the Lord was laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

P: After the suffering of His soul He will see the light of life and be satisfied.

C: By knowledge of Him my righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities.

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

P: For He bore the sins of many:
C: **And made intercession for the transgressors.**

1:00 p.m., Zion School Choir
7:00 p.m., Zion Adult Choir

“Nobody Wanted Him”
“Like a Lamb”

THE SEVEN WORDS OF THE CROSS

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JESUS, IN THY DYING WOES

- 1) **Jesus, in Your dying woes, Even while your life-blood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 2) **Savior, for our pardon pray 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.**

First Word:

Luke 23:26-34

26 As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. 28 Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ 30 Then “ ‘they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!”’ 31 For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?” 32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When 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. 34 Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

1ST MEDITATION

First candle is extinguished





JESUS, PITYING THE SIGHS

- 1) **Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near Him, dies,
Promising him Paradise: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

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

- 3) **May our hearts to You incline, Looking from our cross to Yours;
Cheer our souls with hope divine: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

Second Word:

Luke 23:38-43

38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

2ND MEDITATION

Second candle is extinguished



JESUS, LOVING TO THE END

- 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 You: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

Third Word:

John 19:25-27

25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," 27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

3RD MEDITATION

Third candle is extinguished



IV

JESUS, WHELMED IN FEARS UNKNOWN

- 1) Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown, With our evil left alone,
While no light from heaven is shown: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 2) When we vainly seem to pray And our hope seems far away,
In the darkness be our Stay: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 3) Though no Father seems to hear, Though no light our spirits cheer,
May we know that God is near: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

Fourth Word:

Matthew 27:45-49

45 From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. 46 About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). 47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." 48 Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. 49 The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

4TH MEDITATION

Fourth candle is extinguished



V

JESUS, IN YOUR THIRST AND PAIN

- 1) **Jesus, in Your thirst and pain, While Your wounds Your life-blood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 2) **Thirst for us in mercy still, All Your holy word fulfill,
Satisfy your loving will: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 3) **May we thirst Your love to know; Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

Fifth Word

John 19:28, 29

28 Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." 29 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.

5TH MEDITATION

Fifth candle is extinguished



VI

JESUS, ALL OUR RANSOM PAID

- 1) **Jesus, all our ransom paid, All Your Father's will obeyed,
By Your sufferings perfect made: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 2) **Save us in our soul's distress, Be our Help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness: Hear us, holy Jesus.**
- 3) **Brighten all our heavenward way With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day: Hear us, holy Jesus.**

Sixth Word:

John 19:30

³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

6TH MEDITATION

Sixth candle is extinguished



VII

JESUS, ALL YOUR LABOR VAST

- 1) Jesus, all Your labor vast, All Your woe and conflict past,
Yielding up Your soul at last: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 2) When the death shades round us lower, Guard us from the Tempter's power,
Keep us in that trial hour: Hear us, holy Jesus.
- 3) May Your life and death supply Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high: Hear us, holy Jesus.

Seventh Word:

Luke 23:33-46

³³ When 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. ³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³ Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." ⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

7TH MEDITATION

Seventh candle is extinguished



HYMN RESPONSE: CW158

"Oh, Perfect Life of Love"

- 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) No pain that we can share But he has felt its smart;
All forms of human grief and care Have pierced that tender heart.

4) **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.**

5) **In perfect love he died; for me he dies, for me!
O all-atoning Sacrifice, You died to make me free!**

BIDDING PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the whole Church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from the assaults of the evil one, and help us remain faithful to your Word so that in every adversity we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of all believers. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear it may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Christ our Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word, that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism, that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live new and holy lives, through Christ our Lord.

C: Spirit, have mercy.

P: Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to

govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Christ our Lord.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still be glorified and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Christ Jesus.

C: Amen. Father, protect us.

P: Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one true God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your Word, mercifully gather from the nations a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen. Christ, redeem us.

P: Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you, whose name we bear. We ask that you would change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without reason. Give them repentance and faith so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen. Spirit, change hearts.

P: Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial.

Silent prayer

P: Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our griefs and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation, that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Christ our Lord.

C: Lord, give us peace. Amen.

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he himself has taught us.

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.

CLOSING HYMN: *CW 119 (vs. 1-3)*

“Were You There?”

- 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?**

- 3 **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?**

STREPITUS (the loud noise signifying the closing of Jesus' tomb, which ends this service. The congregation is to exit the service quietly. The pastors will not be greeting people after the Good Friday service.)



Officiants

1:00 p.m. Acolyte: Bryce Mueller

7:00 p.m. Acolyte: Alan Bober

Adult Choir Director: Bryan Schneck

Junior Choir Director: Michelle Roth

Pianist: Deanna Schneck

Liturgists & Lectors: Pastor Greg Sitzman

Pastor Ross Ulrich