

Trinity Lutheran Church



April 7, 2023
Good Friday

All gather in silence.

GATHERING

I invite you tonight to open your hearts and life, and allow the story that has changed history to transform you and enlighten you.

Allow God's story to be heard in all the corners of your lives and may the cross, the cross that held a savior bring you to a place of new life.

GATHERING HYMN: *Ah, Holy Jesus* (ELW 349, v. 1-2)

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my

judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
treason, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,

by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.

INTRODUCTION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

We adore you and we bless you, Lord Jesus Christ, here and everywhere in the whole world, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. May your song of love unknown mark our journey tonight, and your sacred head our hope for tomorrow. We look to you now, O Lord, as we journey together. Amen.

The candles are lighted.

The First Step: Jesus Is Condemned to Death

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THE LESSON: Mark 14:32-64

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Lord, we beg you to forgive us for the careless judgments we have so often made in the courtrooms of our minds. Help us to understand that while we are entitled to our opinions, the world is not always anxious for us to express them. The words of scripture, “But Jesus remained silent”, and “Judge not that you not be judged,” ring now in our ears. Following your example, help us never again to betray innocent blood by our judgment of others. And hear us as we confess to you our sins . . .

(A period of brief silence)

MEDITATIVE SONG: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (ELW 490, v. 1-2)



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav' - n - ly food.

The Candle is Extinguished

The Journey Continues

The Second Step: Jesus Goes Before Pilate and Herod

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THE LESSON: Luke 22:66-23:25

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

God of truth and salvation, in the darkness of this world's uncertainty your holy people search for hope. That hope is revealed in the person of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We are certain that you, O God, are true and cannot lie. Enable us to be steadfast in faith, as your Son has been steadfast to us. And like him, empower us to pick up our crosses and begin to follow in faith where he has first led the way. We ask only that you go with us, and that you forgive us for adding weight to the crosses of others, and your own cross, by our willful and thoughtless behavior in our homes, in our work, and at our play. Amen.

MEDITATIVE SONG: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (ELW 351 v. 1-2)



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;



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!



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;



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.

The Candle is Extinguished

The Journey Continues

The Third Step: Simon of Cyrene Helps Carry the Cross

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THE LESSON: Matthew 27:27-32

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Lord Jesus, each of us is thrown into unexpected situations in life; and knowing what to do, how to do it, how to react, and when to become involved is sometimes difficult. We pray now for your guidance through the Holy Spirit, and further, the courage to do your will. And then, Lord, when we do respond in daily life, let us never look back with doubt, but always ahead to you. In Jesus name, Amen.

MEDITATIVE SONG: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (ELW 338, v. 1 and 3)



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

The Candle is Extinguished

The Journey Continues

The Fourth Step: Peter Denies Jesus

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THE LESSON: Mark 14:66-15:1

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

God our comforter, you are a refuge and a strength for us, a helper close at hand in time of distress. Forgive us for leaving you stranded. Forgive us for our lack of faith. Forgive us for being silent when your words of grace were locked behind our tongues. We have often followed Peter and denied you. Enable us, to hear your words of faith; that our fear is expelled, our loneliness eased, our anxiety calmed, and our hope reawakened. Send your Spirit upon us once more to grant us courage to proclaim you as Lord of all. Amen.

MEDITATIVE SONG:

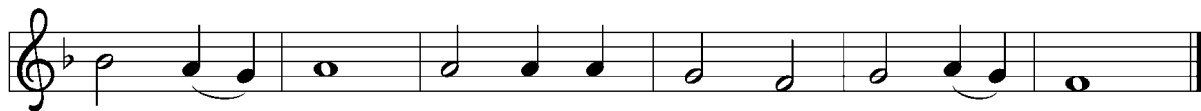
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (ELW 803, v. 1-3-4)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

The Candle is Extinguished

The Journey Continues

The Fifth Step: Jesus Is Stripped of His Clothing

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THE LESSON: Matthew 27:35-44

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Gentle Jesus, you have brought us face to face with the mystery of life's suffering. With sensitivity, you show your love for all who suffer. Humbly, you ask us not to question, "Why?" It is not for us to rob this mystery of its secret. Forgive our lack of understanding and stand with us no matter what it is we face. Amen.

MEDITATIVE SONG: *Jesus, Remember Me (ELW 616)*

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The Candle is Extinguished
The Journey Continues

The Sixth Step: Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross

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THE LESSON: Mark 15:25-41

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Lord, in this final moment we pledge our fidelity—our faithfulness—to you. To tell you that we believe is easy. To prove our belief is hard. As you leave us, we thank you for commending us to the care of each other. Our mutual love will prove our love for you; so help us to love you and each other more through your grace. Amen.

MEDITATIVE SONG: *Go to Dark Gethsemane* (ELW 347, v. 1-2)



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

The Candle is Extinguished

The Journey Continues

The Seventh Step: Jesus Is Laid Within the Tomb

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THE LESSON: Mark 15:42-47

THE PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Lord, we have come to the moment when time meets eternity. Past, present, and future blend together. The past records memories of your passion and death. The present gives opportunities for loving and serving you. The future promises a fuller life for having walked with you along the way of the cross. Now, Lord, we actively await the fulfillment of your promise with undying hope; in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Candle is Extinguished

MEDITATIVE SONG: *Were You There?* (ELW 353)



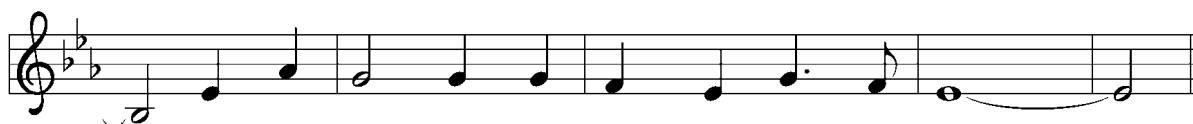
- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
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?



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 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?

As the candles are extinguished, our voices are silenced with all creation. The world is full of grief and despair at the death of God.

Remain as long as you desire. Please leave in silence.

Readers

Lindsay Conyers

Lisa Guarnieri

Lily Conyers

Steve Boss

Shelli Curtis

Jonathan Curtis

Janet Boss

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In the Office..... **Lisa Guarnieri**