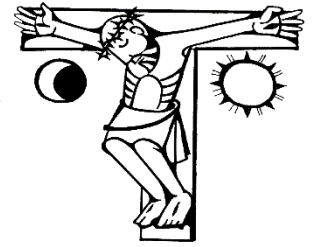


Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Good Friday
zionlutheranaberndeen.org



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together: **Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 22

(read responsively)

- ¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
- ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
- ³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- ⁵To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
- ⁶But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.
- ⁷All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
- ⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"
- ⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.
- ¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
- ¹¹Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
¹⁶For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;
¹⁷I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!
O my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!
²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.
²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.
²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!
²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.
²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

³⁰**Posterity will serve him;**
future generations will be told about the LORD,

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW #349

Verses 1-3

- 1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.
- 2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.
- 3 Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

MESSAGE

Pastor Jim Holthus

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:28-40

Peter denies Jesus

²⁸Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³²(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I

came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

The first candle is extinguished.

O Jesus Christ, you lived among us, healing the sick, proclaiming the good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Almighty and ever living God, in your tender love for all humanity, you sent you Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our nature and suffer death on the cross, giving us his life. Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering and share in his resurrection.
Amen.

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347 verse 1

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:1-7

Pilate sentences Jesus

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" ⁶When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

The second candle is extinguished.

You came to loosen the chains of every kind of slavery, friend of the lowly, bread of hungry souls.

Lord God, whose blessed Son, our Savior, gave his body to be whipped and his face spit upon: Give us the grace to accept joyfully the suffering of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN***Go to Dark Gethsemane*****ELW #347** verse 2

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 suffering, shame, or loss;
learn from him to bear the cross.

SCRIPTURE READING**John 19:8-16a***Pilate hands Jesus over to be crucified*

⁸Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

¹³When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

The third candle is extinguished.

Jesus, master of patience and goodness, forgiving all who see your mercy.

Teach your Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; whose consolation and hope is in our Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN***Precious Lord, Take My Hand*****ELW #773** verse 2

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

SCRIPTURE READING**John 19:16b-22***The crucifixion of Jesus*

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read

this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, calling the weary and the burdened.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us to glory always in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW #773 verse 3

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:23-25a

The soldiers cast lots for Jesus' clothing

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Jesus, you came into the world to serve and to lay down your life. You had nowhere to lay your head; you were betrayed for money, dragged before Pilate, and nailed to the cross.

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of mercy on the cross, an instrument of death, that everyone might be welcomed into your saving embrace and the promise of life. Clothe us in your Holy Spirit that, reaching forth with your Word, we may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge of your cross for the honor of your name. **Amen.**

HYMN

Were You There

ELW #353 verse 1

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?

SCRIPTURE READING**John 19:25b-42***The death and burial of Jesus*

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. ²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Jesus, by your resurrection from the dead, you are Lord of all the worlds, alive forever to intercede with your Father and ours.

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb and rested on the Sabbath day. Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our prefect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

HYMN***Were You There*****ELW #353 verse 5**

5 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?

The shadows in our sanctuary symbolize the darkness of Christ's three days in the tomb. But like God's love, this light is never entirely extinguished. The everlasting candle is returned to the altar in anticipation of the resurrection. The candle's return concludes the service.