

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 7th, 2023

"By His Grace you are saved through faith"
Ephesians 2:8

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*



Image: "They crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them." (John 19:18)

Welcome to Grace! We're Glad You've Joined Us!

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins & worship activity bags (age 2-8) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our church narthex and entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again! If your child is using the bathroom during the worship service, we ask that you monitor them so that they are using it in a timely manner. We are glad that you're here!!!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the **Prayer Request Sheet** found on the podium in the narthex.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather “Catechetical Series: The Ten Commandments, Commandment Two”

From Holy Thursday, we move to Good Friday, the second part of the three-day Triduum service. This is the most solemn day of the Church Year—the day on which we recall the death that saves us. On this day, we remember that God gave us His name as His word and bond. The saving name of God is Jesus, the incarnate Son of God who walked obediently under the Law, delivered Himself up to the suffering and death of the cross, and made salvation available for all who wear that name by Baptism and faith. Luther reminds us that the name of God was given to us to be the name we call upon in prayer and the name we raise in worship and praise. Jesus' death fulfills the commandment's promise and makes His name the source of all our hopes of redemption—but not for us only! He died for all that those who live should not live for themselves but for Him.

We invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer.** Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

Order of Service...as outlined in the bulletin

✠ PREPARATION ✠

ABOUT THE SERVICE

(Worshippers enter in silence in order to reflect on the sacrifice Christ made on the cross for our sins. Tenebrae, which means darkness, lends its name to this service, because we begin with lights on, and candles lit and gradually extinguish both to point to the darkness that came to earth on that Friday afternoon when Christ died.)

OPENING HYMN—"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

LSB 440 vs. 1-5

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, by the way of the cross;

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, by the nails and thirst;

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, by the blood that stained the holy cross;

People: O Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,

People: who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and now He sits at the right hand of the throne of God. *(Hebrews 12:2, adapted)*

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,

People: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

People: make haste to help me, O Lord. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We adore You, Lord Jesus, in Your cross and Passion, through which You have brought life and joy into the world through Your suffering and death.

People: Be gracious to us according to Your mercy and bless us. Shine the light of Your face on us and give us Your peace.

Pastor: Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God,

All: at this hour You bore our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live for righteousness. Have mercy on us now and at the hour of our death and give us a holy and peaceful life in this world and through Your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You live and rule, God forever. Amen.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
People: grant us peace.

Pastor: Jesus, the Lamb of God, has taken away the sins of the world. By the command of Christ and the power of His death, I forgive your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God, we come before You on this day, remembering the Savior whom You sent, the suffering that paid the cost of our redemption, and the death that killed death, once for all. Give us such faith in Your Son and in the salvation He has won, that we may not despair for lack of hope nor surrender ourselves to evil, but call upon His saving name with thanksgiving in our hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

People: Amen.

Sit

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING—*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*
(*Surely, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.*)

¹³Behold, 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.

¹Who has believed what they 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. ³He 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. ⁴Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and

afflicted. ⁵But 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. ⁶All 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 sin, 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON—Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

(Although the Son of God, Jesus learned obedience through suffering.)

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...

⁷In 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,

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Because of the long reading the congregation may remain seated...

HOLY GOSPEL—John 18:1-19:42

(Jesus is crucified on the cross for our sins.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, beginning at the eighteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” ⁵They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷So he asked them again, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” ⁸Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go.” ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.” ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

¹²So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” ¹⁸Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” ²²When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” ²³Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” ²⁴Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” ²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” ²⁷Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

HYMN OF RESPONSE—“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”

LSB 439 vs. 1-5

²⁸Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” ³⁰They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” ³¹Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him

by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” ³²This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³³So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” ³⁵Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” ⁴⁰They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” ⁷The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.” ⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” ¹¹Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.”

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵They 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.” ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

HYMN OF RESPONSE—“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

LSB 449 vs. 1-4

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

²³When 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, ²⁴so 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, ²⁵but standing by 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 nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

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

HYMN OF RESPONSE—“O Perfect Life of Love”

LSB 452 vs. 1-5

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³²So 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. ³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Stand

RESPONSE

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

People: O come, let us worship Him.

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

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Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

People: O come, let us worship Him.

CREED—*Apostles' Creed*

People: 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 will 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.

Sit

SERMON HYMN—"Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"

LSB 456 vs. 1, 2 & 3

SERMON "The 2nd Commandment" (Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9)

OFFERING/ATTENDANCE

As the offerings are being passed to you by the ushers, we ask that you take this time to fill out the attendance pads located in your pews so that we can acknowledge your presence with us today. We are so glad that you have joined us in worship here at Grace!!! We also thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord's Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It's easy, fast, and secure. If you're able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving by texting **graceoc** to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site at graceoakcreek.org. You may give a onetime gift or set up your regular weekly or monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write 'online giving' on the outside and place it in the offering plate.



✘ TENEBRAE OBSERVANCE ✘

THE SEVEN WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

The First Word

("Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.")

John 19:14-24 (NIV)

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. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified Him, and with Him two others---one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this Man claimed to be King of the Jews."

"What I have written, I have written." When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, "They divided My garments among them and cast lots for My clothing." So this is what the soldiers did.

Luke 23:32-34a (NIV)

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

Hymn— "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes"

The First Word- LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace. When You were mocked, You did not respond with harsh words. When You were tormented, You did not react in anger. When You were nailed to the cross, You prayed for forgiveness for those who caused You to suffer. Give to us the virtues of gentleness, patience, and a forgiving spirit, that we may repay evil with good. Teach us also to love our enemies, and as children of the heavenly Father, to live in peace with all people.

All: Amen.

[The first candle is extinguished]

The Second Word

("I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise.")

Luke 23:35-43 (NIV)

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, 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. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise."

Hymn— "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes "

The Second Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite mercy You heard the plea of the thief dying on the cross next to You. We pray that You would open our hearts in mercy to welcome those who turn to You, and rejoice in their salvation. When our last hour comes, hold us firm in our faith, and bring us also to live with You in Paradise.

All: Amen.

[The second candle is extinguished]

The Third Word

(Jesus said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother.")

John 19:25-27 (NIV)

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

Hymn— "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes "

The Third Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, while You suffered the agony of the cross, Your thoughts turned to the welfare of others. Your concern was for Your mother in her sorrow. We pray that You would regard with pity all parents who mourn the death of their children, and all parents who sorrow because their children have suffered tribulations or forsaken their faith. By the power of Your healing, we pray that parents and children may know peace, and that relationships may be restored.

All: Amen.

[The third candle is extinguished]

The Fourth Word

("My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?")

Matthew 27:45-47 (NIV)

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, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

Hymn— "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes"

The Fourth Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, Father of all people and Creator of all that exists, You hold all people in Your power. We pray that You would not forsake the world which Your Son died to redeem. Even though we still see the influence of sin and evil all around us, assure us of Your continued presence in our midst. Help us to know Your love in our lives, so we can show Your presence to others.

All: Amen.

[The fourth candle is extinguished]

The Fifth Word (*"I am thirsty."*)

Matthew 10:37-42 (NIV)

"Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and 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 even 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."

John 19:28-29 (NIV)

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."

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.

Hymn— " Jesus, in Your Dying Woes"

The Fifth Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord and Savior 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. When we find ourselves suffering, give us peace and patience to endure the pain that comes our way. Comfort us with the memory of the cross, and use this to give us the strength we need to bear our burdens.

All: Amen.

[The fifth candle is extinguished]

The Sixth Word (*"It is finished."*)

Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28 (NIV)

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.

John 19:30a (NIV)

When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

Hymn— "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes"

The Sixth Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. 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. We pray that You would complete in us also everything that You intend for us, so that as children of the heavenly Father, we may live for His glory.

All: Amen.

[The sixth candle is extinguished]

The Seventh Word

("Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.")

Luke 23:44-46 (NIV)

Pastor: It was now about the sixth hour, and 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, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He had said this, He breathed His last.

Matthew 27:54

Pastor: When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed,

People: "Surely He was the Son of God!"

Hymn— " Jesus, in Your Dying Woes"

The Seventh Word-LSB 447

Prayer—

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

All: Amen.

[The seventh candle is extinguished]

Pastor: Let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

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 Light of Christ is Removed—[The pastor takes the white/paschal candle out of the sanctuary and extinguishes it or leaves it lit.]

The Strepitus—(*The stone is rolled in front of the tomb.*) [A book is slammed down on a hard surface as a reminder of the sealing of the tomb.]

The Candle is Returned—[The pastor returns the white/paschal candle extinguished to indicate Jesus died, or the candle could remain lit to point us to the hope of Easter.]

[A single bell will ring 33 times, once for each year of Jesus' life.]

Parting—

(You are asked to leave in silence anticipating the joys of Easter while contemplating the solemnity of Good Friday. You may remain in the sanctuary for meditation or prayer as long as you like. The omission of the benediction today indicates that our worship is not complete until joined with the celebration of Easter).

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!!!



SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

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