

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church
1615 N. Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Good Friday

April 19th, 2019

7:15 p.m.

Introduction to Good Friday Worship: Protestant versions of Tenebrae service on Good Friday often have the inclusion of the last seven sayings of Jesus, assembled from the various gospel accounts. We read scripture, snuff out candles, and drape black cloth over the cross to represent the flight of the disciples and the approach of the dark hate of Jesus' enemies and the Passion of Christ. When the last passage has been read the church is completely dark. The Christ candle is carried out, a loud bang is heard to signal Jesus' death and recalls the days when Jesus was in the tomb. We place the candle in the font at the entrance of the sanctuary to represent the hope of the prophecy of Easter.

Please enter and meditate in silence.

Prelude

Choral in E Minor by Jean Langlais

Call to Worship

Let us pause to pray and reflect upon the great mercy of our God, who this day gave us his only begotten Son to save us from sin.

Lighting the Candles

Prelude on Herzliebster Jesus

Arr. by Fred Gramann – Bells Angels

(This piece is based on the text and tunes of three hymns. We offer the texts here as a reflection)

Herzliebster Jesu [Johann Cruger, 1640]

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.

Kedron [United States Harmony, 1799]

Thou Man of grief, remember me, Thou never canst Thyself forget.

Thy last expiring agony, Thy fainting pangs and bloody sweat.

Father, if I may call Thee so, regard my fearful heart's desire; remove this load of guilty woe, nor let me in my sins expire!

I tremble, lest the wrath divine, which bruises now my wretched soul, should bruise this wretched soul of mine, long as eternal ages roll.

Victimae Paschali [Gregorian Chant for Easter Day]

To the Paschal victim let Christians offer up their songs of praise.

The Lamb has redeemed the sheep: Christ who is without sin has reconciled sinners to the Father.

Service bulletin continues with panel 2 on white insert

Death and life have fought a huge battle, the Prince of Life was dead, but lives and reigns.

Tell us, Mary, what did you see on your way? 'The tomb of Christ, who is alive, and I saw the glory of his rising; angels standing as witnesses, the shroud and linen cloth.

Christ my hope has risen: He has gone to Galilee before you.' Truly, we know Christ has risen from the dead: O King and victor, have mercy on us.

The Trial

Then Pilate addressed the crowd saying, “Shall I release to you this man called Jesus, King of the Jews?”

No! We want Barabbas!

So Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged, and the soldiers placed a crown of thorns on his head, dressed him in a purple robe and mocked him saying,

“Hail, King of the Jews.”

Pilate then brought him before the crowd and said, “Here is the man.”

Hymn

#349 Ah, Holy Jesus [Stanzas 1-3]

When the chief priests and police saw him, they shouted,

Crucify Him! Crucify Him!

Pilate said, “Take him yourselves and judge him; I find no case against him.”

But they cried out all the more,

Crucify Him! Crucify Him!

Pilate, being afraid of the crowd asked, “Jesus, do you not know I have the power to release you?” Jesus answered, “You would have no power over me unless given to you from above.” From then on Pilate tried to release Jesus, but the Jews cried out,

Away with Him! Crucify Him!

Pilate asked, “Shall I crucify your King?”

We have no King but Caesar!

Then Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified. He had placed on the cross over Jesus’ head a sign in Hebrew, Latin and Greek; ‘Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.’

Hymn

#349 Ah, Holy Jesus [Stanzas 4-5]

Prayer of the Day

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

Amen.

Offertory Anthem

And Can it Be? by Dan Forrest - Senior Choir

And can it be that I should gain [Amazing love, how can it be?] An int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above, So free, so infinite His grace; Emptied Himself of all but love, And bled for Adam's helpless race; 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For, O my God, it found out me. Amazing love, how can it be?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ my own. Amazing love! how can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

The Crucifixion

First Word

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. -Luke 23:34

Hymn

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?

Second Word

One of the criminals who was hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' -Luke 23:39-43

Third Word

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. -John 19:26

Hymn

**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?**

Fourth Word

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land. And at about three-o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” -Matthew 27:46

Anthem

In Remembrance by Jeffery L. Ames – Fallen Angels,
With Abigail Hughes, Horn

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine [May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord]

Turn to me and be gracious, for my heart is in distress.

Oh God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?

My tears linger at night, but joy comes in the morning light.

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine

Lord, in Your infinite mercy, grant us rest. Rest forevermore.

Fifth Word

When Jesus knew that all was now finished he said, in order to fulfill the scripture, “I am thirsty.” So they put a sponge full of wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. -John 19:28

Hymn

**Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?**

Sixth Word

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." -John 19:30

Hymn

**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?**

Seventh Word

Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice said,

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"

And having said this he breathed his last. *(Pause)*

Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,
"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

Since it was the day of Preparation, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave his permission. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with spices in linen cloths. And they placed the body in a nearby tomb.

The Lament

The Christ candle is carried out, and a loud bang is heard to signal Jesus' death and recalls the days when Jesus was in the tomb.

Anthem

How Beautiful by Barbara York - Abigail Hughes, Horn



Please Depart in Peace

*The Service continues tomorrow evening at 7:00 with the Easter Vigil Service.
You are invited to remain for prayer and meditation to contemplate
the mystery of the crucified Savior.*