

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

Know Christ + Grow in Christ + Make Christ Known



Good Friday *Service of Tenebrae*

April 3, 2026
6:00 PM

Good Friday is part of the sacred Triduum, the three-day observance of Christ's Passion (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday). This day is "good" because of the salvation Christ won for us on the cross of Calvary.

Good Friday is not observed as a funeral for Christ. It is a day for repentance over sin and restrained praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross. The altar remains bare, having been stripped on Maundy Thursday.

The service of Tenebrae (meaning "darkness") consists of the extinguishing of the church lights. Historically it occurred early in the morning at the Offices of Matins and Lauds on all three days of the Triduum. In recent times, the service has been observed only on the evening of Good Friday.

The Paschal Candle, now removed from the chancel, will be lit at the start of tomorrow evening's Easter Vigil. The Paschal Candle is symbolic of Christ's resurrection.

Large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1363 1st Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405
319-366-1569 | www.trinitycr.org

HYMN: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" LSB 436



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
 at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
 Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

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OPENING SENTENCES

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

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

C: **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

All: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

P: Praise to You, O Christ,

C: **Lamb of our salvation.**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

- P: On this most holy and solemn day, the Friday we call “good,” we are confronted with the serious nature of our sin, which made this day necessary. It is right and proper for us to reflect on and confess our sinfulness. Let us join the woman caught in adultery, the tax collector in the temple, and King David, saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”
- C: **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being; and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.** (*Psalms 51:1-9*)
- P: God is merciful. Even before we were aware of the burden of our sin, God planned our salvation. He sent His only-begotten Son into this world of sin and made Him to be sin for us. It was our sin that He bore on Calvary’s cross. It was the penalty for our sin that He paid. And it was because of His sacrifice that our sins are forgiven. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**
- P: As God’s forgiven children, we pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives and live for His glory:
- C: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Amen.** (*Psalms 51:10-12*)

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

✠ *A Service of Darkness Based on the Words* ✠
Spoken by Our Lord from the Cross

PROPHECY.....Psalm 22:16–18

FIRST WORD.....Luke 23:32–38

RESPONSE

P: Father, we are overwhelmed as we consider our Lord’s crucifixion.

C: **It is so difficult to comprehend the depth of Your love for us.**

P: We stand in awe of Jesus forgiving those who crucified Him.

C: **Help us to learn to forgive those who hurt us.**

P: Open our eyes, Lord,

C: **that we may see Your love more clearly in the death of Your Son.**

HYMN: “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus”.....LSB 531, sts. 1-2



1 Hail, Thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, Thou Gal - i -
2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, All our sins on



le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us; Thou didst
They were laid; By al - might - y love a - noint - ed, Thou hast



free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, Thou u - ni - ver - sal Sav - ior,
full a - tone - ment made. All Thy peo - ple are for - giv - en



Bear - er of our sin and shame! By Thy mer - it
Through the vir - tue of Thy blood; O - pened is the



we find fa - vor: Life is giv - en through Thy name.
gate of heav - en, Rec - on - ciled are we with God.

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✠ *The first candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Psalm 22:7-8

SECOND WORD.....Luke 23:39-43

RESPONSE

P: Lord Jesus, open our eyes,

C: **that we, too, may glimpse the goodness of this day, even in the midst of uncertainty and sadness.**

P: Guide and direct us into Your paradise which awaits us,

C: **and reveal Your perfect peace to us.**

P: Heavenly Father, grant us a richer awareness

C: **of the hope that You provide in Your Son Jesus.**

P: Help us to cling every day to the life You have given to us,

C: **and by Your Holy Spirit, help us to glorify You in all that we do.**

HYMN: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded".....LSB 450, sts. 1, 3



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weigh'd down,
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fer'd Was all for sin - ners' gain;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

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✠ *The second candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Isaiah 7:10–14

THIRD WORD.....John 19:25–27

RESPONSE

P: Lord God, may we learn from our Lord’s example

C: **to love others as You have loved us.**

P: Fill us with joy at the forgiveness which is ours through Your perfect sacrifice,

C: **and help us to share Your love with others.**

P: Encourage us to strive by the power of the Holy Spirit

C: **toward greater unity in our own families and toward unity in the family of believers in Christ Jesus.**

HYMN: “Upon the Cross Extended”LSB 453, sts. 1, 3



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ *The third candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Psalm 22:1–6

FOURTH WORD.....Matthew 27:45–46

RESPONSE

P: Have mercy, Lord—our sins trouble us!

C: **Anxious about the cares of life, we have forgotten Your care.**

P: We have allowed evil to be done in Your name.

C: **We have avoided opportunities to witness to Your love and to share the good news of salvation in Your name.**

P: The good we should have done, O God, we have failed to do! The evil we should not have done, O God, this we have done!

C: **Forgive us, dear Lord, forgive us.**

HYMN: “O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”.....LSB 439, sts. 1, 5



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
Man for - feit - ed his life and is ac -



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
quit - ted; God is com - mit - ted.

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ *The fourth candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Psalm 22:14–15

FIFTH WORD.....John 19:28–29

RESPONSE

P: Lord Jesus, sometimes we forget that the pain and anguish You suffered was human pain and anguish.

C: **We often feel sorry for ourselves, without realizing what You suffered on our behalf.**

P: Having given Your life for us,

C: **help us to be bold in proclaiming Your name, despite the cost to us.**

P: By Your suffering and death for our sake,

C: **grant us the gift of life—life that is lived to Your glory.**

HYMN: “Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”.....LSB 440, sts. 1, 5



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
5 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science grieve me,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con - science give me.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ *The fifth candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Psalm 31:1-5

SIXTH WORD.....Luke 23:44-47

RESPONSE

P: Open our eyes, Lord;

C: **the shadow of Your Son’s cross encompasses all our world.**

P: Teach our hearts, O Lord, that when our last hour comes,

C: **we may confidently commit ourselves into Your loving arms.**

P: Lead us, Lord, that we may follow You

C: **through the valley of the shadow of death into the place prepared for us at Your throne in Paradise.**

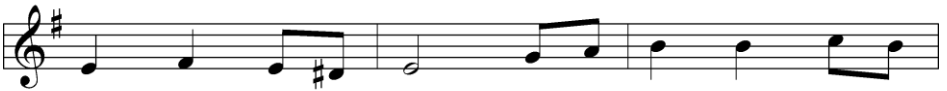
HYMN: “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”.....LSB 451, sts. 1, 3



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ *The sixth candle is extinguished.* ✠

PROPHECY.....Isaiah 53:4-5

SEVENTH WORD.....John 19:30

RESPONSE

P: Lord Jesus, in Your death we have life.

C: **We give You thanks that You finished the course set by the Father, that leads to our salvation.**

P: By Your holy death, strengthen us to remain faithful unto death,

C: **that we may receive the crown of life You have earned for us.**

P: Lead us and guide us, O Lord, beyond the darkness of sin into the light of Your grace,

C: **that we may not wander in the darkness forever, but may see Your glorious light.**

SERMON: “I Am the LORD Your God”

A Sermon for Good Friday on the Close of the Commandments—
Words from the God of Our Salvation, Who Wants Us to Cling
to Him and to Him Alone

OFFERING.....“I Will Arise and Go to Jesus” -arr. Hayes

THE LITANY

P: O Lord,

C: **have mercy.**

P: O Christ,

C: **have mercy.**

P: O Lord,

C: **have mercy.**

P: O Christ,

C: **hear us.**

P: God the Father, in heaven,

C: **have mercy.**

P: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

C: **have mercy.**

P: God the Holy Spirit,

C: **have mercy.**

P: Be gracious to us.

C: Spare us, good Lord.

P: Be gracious to us.

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;
by Your holy nativity;
by Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by Your agony and bloody sweat;
by Your cross and Passion;
by Your precious death and burial;
by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: In all time of our tribulation;
in all time of our prosperity;
in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C: Help us, good Lord.

P: To prosper the preaching of Your Word;
to bless our prayer and meditation;
to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;
to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To draw all to Yourself;
to bless those who are instructed in the faith,
to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely,
the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;
to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;
and to have mercy on us all:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: To turn our hearts to You;
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;
and graciously to hear our prayers:

C: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C: we implore You to hear us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us.

P: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C: have mercy on us and grant us Your peace.

P: O Christ,

C: hear us.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy.

P: O Christ,

C: have mercy.

P: O Lord,

C: have mercy.

P: To You, O Christ, be all honor and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER



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.

C: **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.**

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✠ *The seventh candle is extinguished.* ✠

✠ *The strepitus is heard, symbolizing sealing the tomb.* ✠

HYMN: "Glory Be to Jesus".....LSB 433, sts. 1-3, 6



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
6 Lift we, then, our voic - es, Swell the might - y flood;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
Loud - er still and loud - er Praise the pre - cious blood!

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*We depart quietly as the bell tolls,
✠ contemplating the solemnity of this day ✠
while anticipating the joys of Easter.*



It is finished.

Easter Vigil – Saturday, April 4, 6:00 pm

The Easter Vigil, beginning in semi-darkness with the lighting of a new flame, is an ancient service of Light, Readings, Prayer, Remembrance of Baptism, Word, and Lord's Supper that ushers in the celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

Easter Sunday – April 5, 7:00 am & 9:00 am

Easter breakfast will be served between services by Trinity's youth.