

Click here to open service web page for: 2013/03/29/

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY 2013



He is the atoning
sacrifice ...

for the sins of
the whole world.

1 John 2:2

JESUS CHRIST ON TRIAL



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 75th Ave. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

763-784-8784

www.CLCGraceLutheranChurch.org

Pastor: John Hein (jphein@clclutheran.com)

Organist: Janelle Hein

Church Year: Good Friday

Date: March 29, 2013

Welcome: We welcome all who worship with us this evening.

Tonight we will be following what is known as a Tenebrae Service. The word "*tenebrae*" is a Latin word meaning "darkness" or "shadows." In the early Christian Church a Tenebrae Service was held in remembrance of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus. During this ancient service a candle was extinguished after each Scripture reading was completed. This was symbolic of the progressive darkening depths of Jesus' suffering, and of man's darkening depths of sin for which Jesus died.

In our worship this evening we continue that ancient tradition with an adaptation of such a service. As each of the seven readings is completed in the service, candles will be extinguished. At the end of the service, one candle will remain burning. This is the Christ candle. This candle will be carried out at the end of the service to symbolize Christ's three days in the tomb. Yet our Savior was not overcome by death, but rather He overcame sin and hell through death. When Jesus died on the cross, God's love for mankind did not die. That is why the Christ candle remains lighted. The burial of our Savior only serves to heighten our anticipation of Easter morning, when God would raise His Son and give to mankind His assurance of sins forgiven and Life Eternal.

Though the death of our Savior has now removed the threat and terror of death for us sinners, Good Friday remains a most solemn observance. Therefore, this evening we ask that you refrain from talking following the service until after you leave the church proper. This is a time for prayerful reflection on the part of God's Children. Though you may find it difficult to see and read by the end of the service, this serves also to remind us of our spiritual blindness apart from Christ Jesus our Lord.

JESUS CHRIST ON TRIAL

✠ THE ORDER OF GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP ✠

Pastoral Entrance:

The Invocation, Announcements, Opening Prayer:

Hymn:..... TLH 159: Go to Dark Gethsemane

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, Ye that feel the Tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away, Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.
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 of Him to bear the cross.
3. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die.
4. Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom,-- Who hath taken Him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Confession & Absolution: ...*Based on Romans 3:9-12, 19-26*

- P: Let us confess our sins before our Savior, Jesus Christ, the One who has redeemed us ... We have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.*
- C: As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.*
- P: They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable;*
- C: There is none who does good, no, not one."*
- P: Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law,*
- C: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*
- P: Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight,*
- C: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*
- P: But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed,*
- C: being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,*

P: ..even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.

C: For there is no difference; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

P: being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

C: whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness,

P: because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

C: to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Sing [♪]: God loved the world so that He gave

His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.

God would not have the sinner die,
His Son with saving grace is nigh,
His Spirit in the Word doth teach

How man the blessed goal may reach. (TLH 245, st. 1,3)

P: Through Christ's atoning blood, we have peace with God! Be of good cheer. Your sins are forgiven! As the Scripture says, "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered." Amen!

Sing [♪]: Be of good cheer, for God's own Son

Forgives all sins which thou hast done;
Thou'rt justified by Jesus' blood,

Thy Baptism grants the highest good. (TLH 245, st. 4)

Confession of Faith: Luther's Explanation of 2nd Article

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Offering Hymn: TLH 390: Drawn to the Cross

1. [All] Drawn to the Cross, which Thou hast blest
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in Thee my life, my rest,
Christ Crucified, I come.
2. [Men] Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,
Christ Crucified, I come.
3. [Women] Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing, though it be through pain,
Christ Crucified, I come.
4. [All] And then for work to do for Thee,
Which shall so sweet a service be
That angels well might envy me,
Christ Crucified, I come.

The First Word: Luke 23:32-34

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Hymn: TLH 143: O Dearest Jesus

1. O dearest Jesus, what law hast thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession, --
What dark transgression?
2. They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.
3. Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit,
This I do merit.

4. What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.
5. The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted, --
God is committed.

The Second Word: Luke 23:39-43

Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? "And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Hymn:..... TLH 148: Lord Jesus Christ, My Life, My Light

1. Lord Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light,
My Strength by day, my Trust by night,
On earth I'm but a passing guest
And sorely with my sins opprest.
2. Far off I see my fatherland,
Where through Thy blood I hope to stand.
But ere I reach that Paradise,
A weary way before me lies.
3. My heart sulks at the journey's length,
My wasted flesh has little strength;
My soul alone still cries in me:
"Lord, take me home, take me to Thee!"
6. And when my spirit flies away,
Thy dying words shall be my stay.
Thy cross shall be my staff in life,
Thy holy grave my rest from strife.
7. Lord, in Thy nail-prints let me read
That Thou to save me hast decreed
And grant that in Thine opened side
My troubled soul may ever hide.

The Third Word: John 19:25-27

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Hymn: TLH 154: Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

1. [All] Alas! and did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?
2. [Men] Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!
3. [All] Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut His glories in
When God, the Mighty Maker, died
For man the creature's sin.
4. [Women] Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.
5. [All] But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do.

The Fourth Word: Matthew 27:45-46

Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Good Friday Devotion:Based on the Fourth Word
Jesus Christ on Trial: Before God the Father
The God-Forsaken Death Penalty

Hymn:..... TLH 172: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1. O sacred Head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory,
What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call Thee mine.
4. My burden in Thy Passion,
Lord, Thou hast borne for me,
For it was my transgression
Which brought this woe on Thee.
I cast me down before Thee,
Wrath were my rightful lot;
Have mercy, I implore Thee;
Redeemer, spurn me not!
8. What language shall I borrow
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
Oh, make me Thine forever!
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never,
Outlive my love for Thee.



The Fifth Word: John 19:28-29

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Hymn:..... TLH 307: Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

1. Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the Victim and Himself the Priest.
2. He that His saints in this world rules and shields
To all believers life eternal yields,
With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
3. Approach ye, then, with faithful hearts sincere
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Judge of all, our only Savior Thou,
In this Thy feast of love be with us now.

Communion Preparation: Based on Luther's Catechism

P: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, given to us Christians under the bread and wine to eat and to drink, as it was instituted by Christ Himself.

P: Where is this written, as we speak the Words of Institution together?

C: The holy evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and the apostle Paul write this way: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' "In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, 'Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C: The words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that God gives forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation through the sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

P: How can simple eating and drinking do these wonderful things?

C: Eating and drinking actually do nothing. It is the words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," which do this. These words, together with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main part of the sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: forgiveness of sins.

Communion Distribution: Meditative Music

Post-Communion Prayer:

Hymn: TLH 310: Thy Table I Approach

6. Oh, may I never fail
To thank Thee day and night
For Thy true body and true blood,
O God, my Peace and Light!

The Sixth Word: John 19:30

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" ...

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

Hymn: TLH 552: Abide With Me

1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!
8. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

Children's Recitation: John 19:17-20, 25-30

And Jesus, bearing His cross, went out to a place called *the Place* of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. Now Pilate wrote a title and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, *and* Latin. ... Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the *wife* of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own *home*. After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Children:.....TLH 153: Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

1. Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis He! 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.
2. Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that Justice gave.
4. Here we have a firm foundation; Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation, His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded Who on Him their hope have built.

The Seventh Word:..... Luke 23:46

And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last.

Candles Extinguished & Silent Meditation:

The Benediction:

The Exit of the Christ Candle:

Silent prayer:

Announcement: There will be no ushering out this evening. We ask that on this solemn occasion you please leave the church in silence after you have concluded your silent prayers. If you wish, you may remain in the church for personal meditation. Please refrain from speaking until you have left the church building, and out of respect for those wishing to remain, please greet each other quietly outside of the church. As you leave, it would be fitting to think of those events that occurred on that first Good Friday and of the victory that our Savior won for us by His death.



CLC E-Devotion

Friday, April 8, 2011

John 19:6 As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him."

GUILT FOR JESUS, PARDON FOR US

Numerous accusations were levied against Jesus during the proceedings of His church and state trials. In the court room of the Sanhedrin men stepped forward and accused Him of instigating a plot to destroy the Jerusalem temple. The high priest Caiaphas accused Him of blasphemy by pretending to be the Messiah. The chief priests and teachers of the law shouted countless accusations against Jesus before King Herod. During his trial before Pontius Pilate He was accused of being an inciter of riots, a traitor against Rome, a king in competition with Caesar. In no instance, however, were any of His accusers able to make a charge stick. Jesus was shown to be blameless, holy, pure, set apart from sinners in every way. Nonetheless, though exonerated of wrongdoing, He was pronounced "guilty as charged" and condemned to die.

It fills us with sadness to hear how our Savior was subjected to this travesty of injustice. At the same time we are glad because we realize that everything that transpired on that fateful Good Friday long ago took place according the gracious will of God. Our heavenly Father chose to make His holy Son a blameworthy criminal that we guilty ones might be pardoned of any wrong-doing for His sake. As justified, believing children of God we enjoy a peace of mind, security of spirit, and comfort of soul that the world cannot give.

**Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee, -- Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
(The Lutheran Hymnal, 151:5)**