

Click here to open service web page for: 2010/04/02/



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

460 75<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Fridley, MN 55432  
763-784-8784

**Pastor:** John Hein

**Organist:** Janelle Hein

**Email:** [jphein@clclutheran.com](mailto:jphein@clclutheran.com)

**Web Page:** [clgracelutheranchurch.org](http://clgracelutheranchurch.org)

**Church Year:** Good Friday

**Date:** April 2, 2010

**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 are completed in the last part of the service, candles will be extinguished on the cross in the front of the church. 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. May God bless your meditation and worship this evening.

## † The Order of Good Friday Worship †

Announcements & Opening Prayer:

Opening Hymn: .....TLH 140:1-3: *Jesus I Will Ponder Now*

The Invocation:

P: *We begin this Good Friday service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

C: [sung] Amen.

Responsive Confessional Prayer: . Based Upon the Seven Words of Christ

P: *Dear Heavenly Father, on this most solemn occasion we ask You to look on us with compassion. We confess our many sins to You and ask You to forgive us for Jesus’ sake, even as He interceded for us from the cross ...*

C: “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

P: *We are ashamed of our past lawlessness and we realize that we deserve nothing but punishment. According to Your mercy forgive us, as You did the repentant thief who died with Your Son. Speak to our hearts with the words Your dear Son spoke to him ...*

C: “I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

P: *Provide, O Lord, for our earthly needs, as even in Your most bitter agony You provided for Your dear mother ...*

C: “Dear woman, here is your son ...”

P: *We thank and praise You, Dear Savior, that You suffered hell for us and in our place. Now we need never fear the separation from God that You had to suffer ...*

C: “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

P: *Send, we pray, the Holy Spirit into our hearts to strengthen our faith. Grant us a longing and a thirst for Your Words of Life ...*

C: “I am thirsty.”

P: *Grant that we never try to do for ourselves what only Your Son could do for us. We acknowledge that our salvation is complete in Jesus’ suffering and death, and that our own works can earn us nothing. The debt has been paid in full ...*

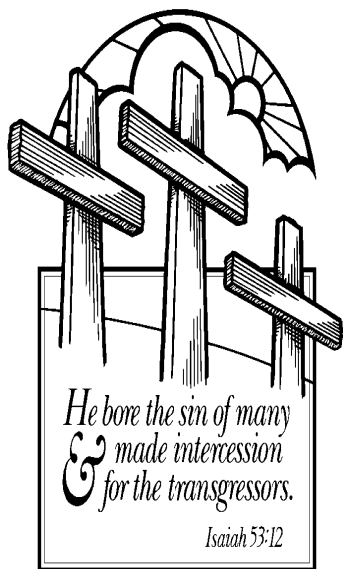
C: “It is finished!”

P: *Finally, Dear Father, take us from this day forward and make us Your own in all things. We are Your servants, with our dying breath may we pray as did Your Son ...*

C: “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.” Amen.



**Our Confession of Faith:** ..... Isaiah 53:4-7, 12b



We believe that Jesus Christ has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All 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. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 146:3: Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

**The Offering:**

**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.



**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P: We pray:**

**C:** Forgive us, dear Lord, for our many sins. Those that trouble our hearts, and those that are known only to You. Amen.

**Choir:** ..... God So Loved the World

**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."

**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P: We pray:**

**C:** Lord Jesus, grant us a strong faith, that we too may be with You in paradise when You call us from this life. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 172:8-10: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (Men st. 8, Women st. 9)

**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.



**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

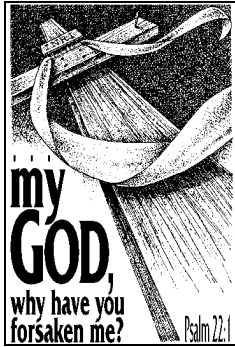
**P: We pray:**

**C:** Compassionate Savior, provide Your tender care for us in all our needs of body and soul. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 178:1-3: We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died

**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?"*



**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P:** *We pray:*

**C:** Lord Jesus, grant that the message of Your suffering may keep us confident of Your loving presence among us through all of life's sorrows. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 153:1-2: Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

**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.*

**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P:** *We pray:*

**C:** O perfect Savior, when we see such great evidence of sin in our lives, fill us with faith that You have done all things perfectly, and that You have kept the Father's will for us. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... TLH 151:1,6-7: Christ, the Life of All the Living

**The Sixth Word:** ..... John 19:30

*So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.*

**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P:** *We pray:*

**C:** O victorious Savior, remove all our fears, since You have accomplished everything in order to give to us the victory over sin, death, and hell. Amen.

**Hymn:** ..... WS 777: Amazing Grace (Women st. 2, Men st. 3)

**Good Friday Sermon:** ..... "STOP' at the Cross"

**Confession & Absolution:** ..... TLH, p. 48

**Words of Institution:**

**Distribution of the Lord's Supper:**

**Post Communion Prayer:**

**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.*

**Prayer:**

Candles snuffed. Silence for personal reflection and prayer ...

**P:** *We pray:*

**C:** Lord Jesus, through life may we rest in Your hand, and in death may we commit ourselves also to Your care. We trust that it was for our eternal life that You died. Amen.

**CDS Children Summary:** ..... John 19:17-20, 25-30

**CDS Children:** ..... TLH 175: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**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.



# Grace Lutheran Church

