

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GOOD FRIDAY—MARCH 29, 2024  
“Be Gracious to Me!”



**THE INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*(Silence for repentant self-examination)*

P: O almighty God,

C: **Merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*(please be seated)*

**THE HYMN #452** “O Perfect Life of Love”



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,  
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;  
3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;  
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul  
5 In per - fect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.  
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.  
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.  
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.  
O all - a - ton - ing Sac - ri - fice, I cling by faith to Thee.

**6 In ev'ry time of need,  
Before the judgment throne,  
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,  
Thy merits, not mine own.**

**7 Yet work, O Lord, in me  
As Thou for me hast wrought;  
And let my love the answer be  
To grace Thy love has brought.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (ESV)

Behold, My Servant shall act wisely; He shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at You—His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind—so 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. Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For 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. He 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. Surely He 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 crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with 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; 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. By 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? And 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. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for guilt, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. Out 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. Therefore 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.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **THE EPISTLE** Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9 (ESV)

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For 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. Let 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. . . In 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. Although He was the Son, He found out from what He suffered what it means to obey. And when He was finished, He became the Source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY #450** *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”*



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weigh-ed down,  
 2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!  
 3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fer-ed Was all for sin - ners' gain;  
 4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard-ian, own me Thine.



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
 How doth Thy face now lan-guish That once was bright as morn!  
 Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
 Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;  
 Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.  
 Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.  
 Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.  
 Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

**5 What language shall I borrow  
 To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
 For this Thy dying sorrow,  
 Thy pity without end?  
 O make me Thine forever!  
 And should I fainting be,  
 Lord, let me never, never,  
 Outlive my love for Thee.**

**7 Be Thou my consolation,  
 My shield, when I must die;  
 Remind me of Thy passion  
 When my last hour draws nigh.  
 Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,  
 Upon Thy cross shall dwell,  
 My heart by faith enfold Thee.  
 Who dieth thus dies well.**

**THE SERMON** *“Be Gracious to Me!”* Text: Psalm 41:10

**THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS #432** *“In Silent Pain”* (sung by the Choir)

*(please stand)*

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**THE AGNUS DEI** *“O Christ, the Lamb of God”*

□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*(please be seated)*

**THE DISTRIBUTION**

**THE DISMISSAL**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in ✠ peace.

C: Amen.

**THE SERVICE OF DARKNESS  
THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
AS RECORDED BY ST. JOHN**

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 18:1-11 (*Betrayal and arrest of Jesus*)

*(The first candle is extinguished.)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

- 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?

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 18:12-27

*(Jesus before the High Priest and the denial of Peter)*

*(The second candle is extinguished.)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

- 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.

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 18:28-40 (*Jesus before Pilate*)

*(The third candle is extinguished.)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

- 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.

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 19:1-16a (*Jesus prepared for crucifixion*)

*(The fourth candle is extinguished)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

- 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.

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 19:16b-24 (*The crucifixion of Jesus*)

*(The fifth candle is extinguished)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

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 READING FROM THE PASSION** John 19:25-30 (*Jesus' mother and His death*)

*(The sixth candle is extinguished.)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

12) **I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,  
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;  
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor  
Henceforth forever.**

**THE READING FROM THE PASSION** John 19:31-37 (*Jesus' side is pierced.*)

*(The seventh candle is extinguished.)*

**THE HYMN** "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

15) **And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven  
To me the crown of joy at last is given,  
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,  
I, too, shall praise Thee.**

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

**THE 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 seventh candle is extinguished.)*

**THE CLOSING RESPONSE**

P: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: **By Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.**

***The Christ candle is carried out.***

***The congregation is invited to meditate silently on Christ's suffering and death.***

***After a time, a rumbling noise symbolizes the earthquake at the time of Christ's death, a loud noise (the strepitus) symbolizes the closing of the tomb, and finally we hear a sound symbolizing the "closing of the book" on Jesus' sacrifice.***

***The candle is returned to its place, reminding us that our redemption is complete.***

***You may remain in the sanctuary for meditation or prayer as long as you like.***

***The omission of the Benediction at the conclusion of this service indicates that our worship is not complete until joined with the celebration of Easter.***

***You are asked to leave in silence anticipating the joys of Easter while contemplating the solemnity of Good Friday.***

***Easter sunrise worship is at 6:30 a.m.  
Our second Easter service is at 9:30 a.m.***

