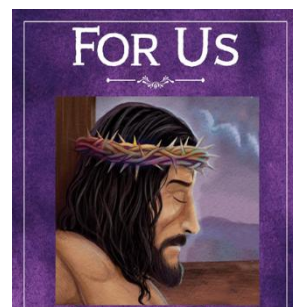


GOOD FRIDAY

1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
April 3, 2026

HIS DYING BREATH



AS WE GATHER

This Friday we call good is a time of somber reflection as we are attentive to the mystery of the cross. We are part of this story, though from a distance. All of this happens until the last, when “for us He gave His dying breath” (LSB 544:5).

Our worship focuses on the inevitable: our Lord’s betrayal, suffering, death, and burial. The Old Testament Reading and Psalms draw accurate pictures of the events of this day, but we need to review them. Only by following our Lord are we able to recognize that He was obeying the Father’s plans. He had already provided the Sacrament of the Altar for us to be able to receive His body and blood, by which the covenant was signed. Now our Lord had to let the events of the day unfold until He was sealed within the borrowed tomb. Because He was so faithful today is Good Friday. It is good for all that He won for us; it is good to recognize God’s great love; it is good to be here, knowing that deliverance from sin and death will come through our Lord’s resurrection.

PROCESSION *(Please Stand)*

Face the cross as it is carried in procession.

INVOCATION

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.

People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

LSB 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Jesus, I will ponder now On your holy passion;
 With your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
 Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
 Of your suff'ring, pain and death That I may not perish.

Grant that I your passion view With repentant grieving.
 Let me not bring shame to you By unholy living.
 How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure
 Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure.

If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
 Let your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.
 Help me see forgiveness won By your holy passion.
 If for me he slays his son, God must have compassion!

PRAYER FOR FAITH IN GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

Pastor: O Lord of hope and God of our salvation, we shed tears of grief for the death of Your beloved Son, Jesus, because the cause was our sin and the cost was His life. Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

544 O Love, How Deep

1. O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
 It fills the heart with ecstasy,
 That God, the Son of God, should take
 Our mortal form for mortals' sake.

2. He sent no angel to our race
 Of higher or of lower place,
 But wore the robe of human frame
 Himself, and to this lost world came.

4. For us he prayed, for us he taught,
 For us his daily works he wrought,
 By words, by signs, and actions, thus
 Still seeking not himself, but us.

5. For us to wickedness betrayed,
 Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
 He bore the shameful cross and death;
 For us at length gave up his breath.

(Please Be Seated)

MESSAGE Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

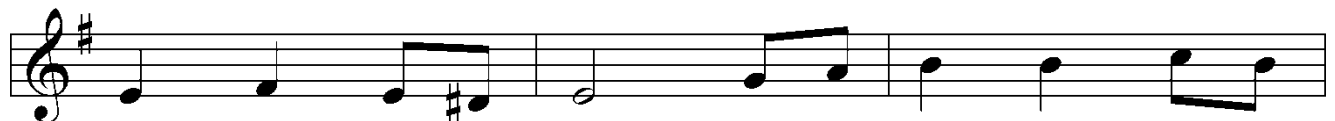
Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
 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
 His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
 sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
 guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

4 Here we have a firm foundation,
 Here the refuge of the lost:
 Christ, the Rock of our salvation,
 Is 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.



READING John 18:12-18 (*Jesus is arrested.*)

Reader: Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound Him and brought Him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in. "You are not one of His disciples, are you?" the girl at the door asked Peter. He replied, "I am not." It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself. (NIV)

Upon the Cross Extended LSB 453

1 Upon the cross extended
 See, world, your Lord suspended.
 Your Savior yields His breath.
 The Prince of Life from heaven
 Himself has freely given
 To shame and blows and bitter death.

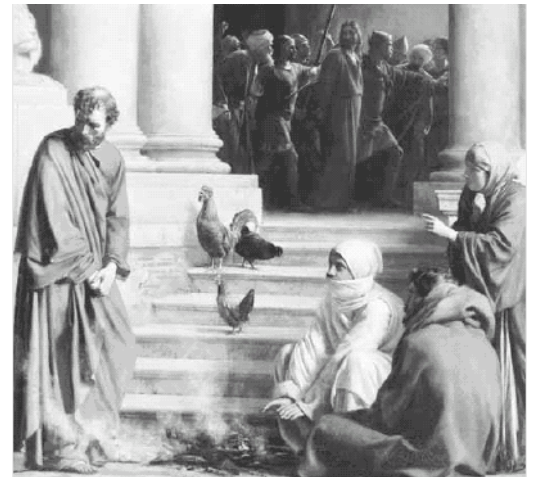


READING John 18:19-27 (*Jesus speaks truth; Peter lies!*)

Elder : Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. Why question Me? Ask those who heard Me. Surely they know what I said." When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby struck Him in the face. "Is this the way You answer the high priest?" he demanded. "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike Me?" Then Annas sent Him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest. As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, "You are not one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not." One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with Him in the olive grove?" Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

Upon the Cross Extended

- 3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You?
 Who has so sore abused You
 And caused You all Your woe?
 We all must make confession
 Of sin and dire transgression
 While You no ways of evil know.
- 4 I caused Your grief and sighing
 By evils multiplying
 As countless as the sands.
 I caused the woes unnumbered
 With which Your soul is cumbered,
 Your sorrows raised by wicked hands.

**PRAYER TO REFLECT**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray,
 O Lord, Your innocent suffering and death is beyond our comprehension. You have become flesh, blood, and bone knowing the intensity of human anguish and pain. In love and grace You have bore the enormity of our sin and guilt securing for us life eternal. By faith, may we confidently know that Your great sacrifice is sufficient to sustain us in this life and the next. Grant us Your peace, Lord, as we remember this day the ultimate price You paid for our salvation.

People: Amen.

READING John 18:28-40 (*Jesus faces interrogation before Pilate.*)

Pastor: Then the Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and asked,

Pulpit side: "What charges are you bringing against this man?"

Lectern side: "If He were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you."

Pulpit side: [Pilate said,] "Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law."

Lectern side: "But we have no right to execute anyone," the Jews objected.

Pastor: This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death He was going to die would be fulfilled. Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked Him,

Pulpit side: "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Pastor: "Is that your own idea, [Jesus asked,] or did others talk to you about Me?"

Lectern side: "Am I a Jew? [Pilate replied] It was Your people and Your chief priests who handed You over to me. What is it You have done?"

Pastor: [Jesus said] "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight to prevent My arrest by the Jews. But now My kingdom is from another place."

Pulpit side: "You are a king, then!" [said Pilate.]

Pastor: [Jesus answered,] "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to Me."

[Pause]

Pastor: "What is truth?" Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, "I find no basis for a charge against Him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release 'the king of the Jews'?" They shouted back,

People: "No, not Him! Give us Barabbas!" Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.

Upon the Cross Extended

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
 Your head with thorns surrounded,
 You died to ransom me.
 The cross for me enduring,
 The crown for me securing,
 You healed my wounds and set me free.



READING John 19:1-7 (*Jesus' Lordship is mocked with a crown of thorns.*)

Reader: Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head. They clothed Him in a purple robe and went up to Him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck Him in the face. Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing Him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against Him." When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the Man!" As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw Him, they shouted,

People: **Crucify! Crucify!**

Reader: But Pilate answered, "You take Him and crucify Him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against Him." The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law He must die, because He claimed to be the Son of God."

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Hebrews 4:14–16*

Pastor: Jesus understands our weaknesses because He was truly human. "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."

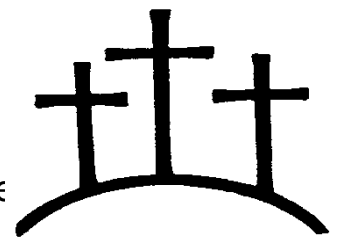
People: **"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."**
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Upon the Cross Extended

7 Your cross I place before me; Its saving pow'r restore me
 Sustain me in the test. It will, when life is ending,
 Be guiding and attending My way to Your eternal rest.



READING John 19:8-15 (*Pilate is persuaded by an angry mob.*)

Reader: When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. "Where do You come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. "Do You refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't You realize I have power either to free You or to crucify You?" Jesus answered, "You would have no power over Me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed Me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting,

People: "If you let this Man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar."

Reader: When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your King," Pilate said to the Jews. But they shouted,

People: "Take Him away! Take Him away! Crucify Him!"

Reader: "Shall I crucify your King?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered.

Were You There LSB 456

- 1 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?

(Please Stand)

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND FAITH

- Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord, in the words of Isaiah the prophet.
O Lord, Jesus Christ, surely You have borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed You stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.
- People: Lord, we give You heartfelt thanks for knowing our griefs and sorrows.**
- Pastor: You were wounded for our transgressions; You were crushed for our iniquities; upon You was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with Your stripes we are healed.
- People: Lord, we ask that You would continually forgive our sins and be our physician in the face of all illness and injury.**
- Pastor: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to our own way; and the Lord has laid on You the iniquity of us all.
- People: Lord, when we stray from Your Word of grace and wisdom, restore us to Your eternal fold.**
- Pastor: You were oppressed, and You were afflicted, yet You opened not Your mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so You opened not Your mouth.
- People: Lord, we praise You for being the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.**
- Pastor: By oppression and judgment You were taken away; and as for Your generation, who considered that You were cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of His people?
- People: Lord, we give You thanks for confronting and conquering grim death, descending into hell, and forever vanquishing the powers of Satan.**
- Pastor: They made Your grave with the wicked and with a rich man in Your death, although You had done no violence, and there was no deceit in Your mouth.
- People: Lord, keep us mindful of Your pure innocence, and by Your Spirit may we be emissaries of Your peace and truth.**

Pastor: Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush You; He has put You to grief; when Your soul made an offering for sin, He saw His offspring; He shall prolong Your days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in Your hand.

People: Lord, You have forsaken Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, that we may prosper in this life. Increase our joy, knowing that our redemption is secure in the life and death of Jesus.

Pastor: Out of the anguish of Your soul He saw and was satisfied; by Your knowledge the righteous one, my servant, made many to be accounted righteous, and You bore their iniquities.

People: Lord, may Your righteousness be made known through our actions and our speech. Cleanse us from all iniquity that we may purposely seek to do Your will among all people.

Pastor: Therefore He will divide You a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because You poured out Your soul to death and were numbered with the transgressors; yet You bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. *Isaiah 53:4-12, ESV adapted*

People: Lord, continue to intercede on our behalf that our unknown transgressions, and unmet needs may be embraced by the care and compassion of God our Father, in Your holy, precious name. Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

READING John 19:16-22

Pastor: Finally Pilate handed Him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified Him, and with Him two others---one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this Man claimed to be king of the Jews." Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."



READING John 19:23-27 (*Soldiers gamble for Jesus' garments.*)

Reader: When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, "They divided My garments among them and cast lots for My clothing." So this is what the soldiers did. Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Were You There

- 2 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?



READING John 19:28-30 (*Jesus' thirst is quenched with a bitter drink.*)

Reader: Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

PERIOD OF SILENT REFLECTION

 1:00PM

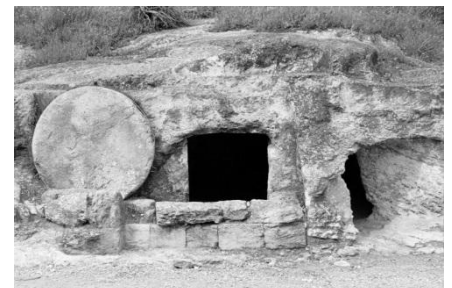
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION
THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION *(The bread and wine received in silence)*
THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

READING John 19:31-37 (*Jesus' body is speared to fulfill Holy Scripture.*)

Reader: Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of His bones will be broken," and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."


Were You There

- 3 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?



READING John 19:38-42 (*Jesus' lifeless body is cared for.*)

Reader: Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord LSB 352

- 1 Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept His word
And at last to us did send
Christ, the sinner's help and friend.

- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray.

People: 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 **Benediction** is omitted, indicating that this service is not complete until joined with the celebration of Easter. A single lit candle is removed from the altar showing the darkness of our sin.*

*The sound of a loud noise is heard like the closing of the tomb.
The candle is returned to the altar in the darkness.*

(All leave in silence.)

Please join our family at Saint Paul's for

Easter Festival Worship

on Sunday at

8:30am and 11:00am!



WHERE WE SERVE

Preacher	Pastor Christopher Fairbairn	
Officiant	Pastor Jim Frusti	
Music Director	Paul Ventimiglia	
Elder	1pm	Bob McGuigan
	7pm	George Foor
Family Life	Jeanette Koch	
Ushers	1pm	Jerry Krause Ron Breuhan Marty Jenter Mike Huskey Elyse Huskey
	7pm	Craig Miller Christine Lewis
Reader	1pm	Lisa Fairbairn