



Good Friday Tre-Ore Service

“The LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.”
Habakkuk 2:20

PREPARATION AND THE FIRST WORD

12 Noon to 12:30pm

Invocation:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Collect of the Day:

Pastor: Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death and grant us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and through your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever.

People: **Amen.**

Hymn:

“Jesus, I will Ponder Now”

LSB #440 (St. 1-4)

Psalms 51: (Read Responsively)

Pastor: ¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

People: ²**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**

Pastor: ³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

People: ⁴**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.**

Pastor: ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

People: ⁶**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

Pastor: ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

People: ⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.**

Pastor: ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

People: ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Pastor: ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

People: ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

Pastor: ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

People: ¹⁴**Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.**

Pastor: ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

People: ¹⁶**For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.**

Pastor: ¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

People: ¹⁸**Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
build up the walls of Jerusalem;**

**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.**

Apostles' Creed:

☒ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

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.

Prayer:

Pastor: To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, and has made us to be a Kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father, to Him be glory forever and ever.

People: Amen.

Psalm:

Psalm 6:1-4

Pastor: ¹O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
nor discipline me in your wrath.

**People: ²Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.**

Pastor: ³My soul also is greatly troubled.
But you, O Lord—how long?

**People: ⁴Turn, O LORD, deliver my life;
save me for the sake of your steadfast love.**

Reading:

John 19:14-16a; Mark 15:21; Luke 23:27-34

¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

²¹And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross.

²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

³⁴And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.

Choral Anthem

Messiah’s Chancel Choir

Mediation:

“Father forgive them...”

Luke 23:33-34

Hymn:

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

LSB #843

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, “And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth.”

People: “God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!”

Pastor: Let us pray for the spirit of forgiving love which prompted Jesus to endure the cross.

People: Lord God, as You have forgiven us, lead us to be forgiving of others. Teach us to forgive, to love, and to have an attitude of serving others. Shape our lives that the world will see Your love through us. Amen.

THE SECOND WORD

12:30pm -12:55pm

Hymn: “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes” LSB #447 (st. 4-6)

Psalm: Psalm 32: 1-2, 7-8

Pastor: ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

People: ²**Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Pastor: ⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

People: ⁸**I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

Reading: John 19:19-24; Luke 23:35-37, 39-43

¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”
²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” ²²Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

“They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.” So the soldiers did these things,

³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Hymn: “In Silent Pain the Eternal Son” LSB #432

Meditation: “Today thou shalt be with me...” Luke 23:39-43

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, “And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth.”

People: **“God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!”**

Pastor: Let us pray through our Lord Jesus Christ that, having chosen His way now by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may be received by Him when our life on earth is ended.

People: **O Lord Jesus Christ, true Son of God, You were crucified to reclaim the world. You poured out Your lifeblood to pay for our sins. With lowly hearts we ask that, when our lives shall end, we may in joy hear You say to us, “Today, you will be in paradise with Me.” We want to belong to You always.**

Pastor: To Him Who loves us and freed us from our sins with His life’s blood, Who made of us a royal house, to serve as the priests of His God and Father- to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

People: **Amen.**

THE THIRD WORD

12:55pm -1:20pm

Psalm: Psalm 38:15-18, 21-22

Pastor: ¹⁵But for you, O LORD, do I wait;
it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

People: ¹⁶**For I said, “Only let them not rejoice over me,
who boast against me when my foot slips!”**

Pastor: ¹⁷For I am ready to fall,
and my pain is ever before me.

People: ¹⁸**I confess my iniquity;
I am sorry for my sin.**

Pastor: ²¹Do not forsake me, O LORD!
O my God, be not far from me!

People: ²²**Make haste to help me,
O Lord, my salvation!**

Hymn: “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” LSB #435

Reading: *John 19:25–27*

²⁵but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Choral Anthem Messiah’s Chancel Choir

Meditation: “Woman, behold your son...” John 19:26

Hymn: “Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing” LSB #421

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, “And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth.”

People: **“God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!”**

Pastor: Let us pray that, through the considerate example of our comforting Lord, we may learn to give true love to our parents and seek their well-being in all times and circumstances.

People: **O Lord Jesus Christ, even on the cross You remembered Your mother, we beg You by Your thoughtful example to waken in all sons and daughters that love for their parents which finds its source in You, so that children may provide for their parents in their need and make their days on earth happy through faithful devotion. Help us to be thoughtful, O God.**

Pastor: Let us pray for our families and loved ones. O God, the Father of all mankind, You have called us to be Your children. Let us as parents and children, husbands and wives, friends and neighbors, live as members of Your household. Especially we pray for those in nursing homes, prisons or any other place of confinement which separates them from home and family. Let each be assured of Your Fatherly love.

People: **Help us to love as You have taught us, dear Lord.**

Pastor: To Him Who loves us and freed us from our sins with His life’s blood, Who made of us a royal house, to serve as the priests of His God and Father – to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

People: **Amen.**

THE FIFTH WORD

1:45pm -2:10pm

Hymn: "My Song is Love Unkown" LSB#430

Psalm: Psalm 102:1-2, 19-20

Pastor: ¹Hear my prayer, O LORD;
let my cry come to you!

People: ²**Do not hide your face from me
in the day of my distress!
Incline your ear to me;
answer me speedily in the day when I call!**

Pastor: ¹⁹that he looked down from his holy height;
from heaven the LORD looked at the earth,

People: ²⁰**to hear the groans of the prisoners,
to set free those who were doomed to die,**

Reading: John 19:28-29

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

Choral Anthem Messiah's Chancel Choir

Meditation: "I thirst..." John 19-28-29

Hymn: "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" LSB #451

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, "And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth."

People: **"God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!"**

Pastor: Lord, You shared every kind of human suffering through Your Son. Let us pray that we may be strengthened through His mercy to endure whatever distress confronts us.

People: **Compassionate Father, we seek help for all men and women upon whom crosses are laid; for nations plagued with famine, pestilence or war; for Christians suffering persecution because of their faith; for persons in danger by sea, land, or air; and for any people oppressed with poverty or sickness, enduring distress of body or disturbance of mind. We thirst in many ways, O God.**

Pastor: Let us pray that God will strengthen the faith of all believers in Christ and keep them loyal in times of testing.

People: **O Father, You are conscious of the sparrow's fall; speak to our hearts when courage fails, men faint for fear, and love grows cold. Make new within us the consciousness of Your everlasting faithfulness. Inspire us to lift up our eyes and see beyond the things that are close and present to the things which will last and endure. Satisfy our thirst, O Lord.**

Pastor: To Him Who loves us and freed us from our sins with His life's blood, Who made of us a royal house, to serve as the priests of His God and Father – to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

People: **Amen.**

THE SIXTH WORD

2:10pm – 2:35pm

Hymn: “Go to Dark Gethsemane” LSB #436 (st. 1-3)

Psalm: Psalm 130:1-4

Pastor: ¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

People: ²**O Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Pastor: ³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

People: ⁴**But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

Reading: John 19:30

³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Hymn: “Upon the Cross Extended” LSB #453 (st. 1-4)

Meditation: “It is Finished...” John 19:30

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, “And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!”

People: **All is finished! Let us remember the way in which Jesus has illuminated our human lives by the radiance of His life.**

Pastor: O Lord, we would remember the ministry of Jesus Christ – His care and concern for the needs of all ages and conditions of life; His wisdom and teaching to bring all people in faith to see You, O God; and His obedience and self-control to serve Your truth even to His death on the cross. May the redeeming power that has flowed through Christ Jesus’ suffering and death flood our lives this day.

People: **Complete in us the good work begun by Christ, our Lord.**

Pastor: All is finished! Let us remember what our Lord fulfilled on the cross. Holy Savior, help us to recall the lengths to which Your love was ready to go: that, having loved Your own, You loved them to the very end; and that, while men were yet Your enemies, You died for them. Nail our rebellious natures to the cross and bury our disobedience.

People: **Help us to love others as You love us.**

Pastor: All is finished! Let us pray to our merciful God that we may rest in Him, knowing that, whether we live or die, all is brought to completion in Christ. O God, in You the generations come and go. You are the strength of all who work and suffer the sleep of the dearly-beloved dead. Lift us into light and love. Give us at last our eternal changelessness. With the church serving on earth and the church triumphant in Heaven, we add our words of thanks and praise to Your name.

People: **All is finished!**

Pastor: To Him Who loves us and freed us from our sins with His life’s blood, Who made of us a royal house, to serve as the priests of His God and Father – to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever!

People: **Amen.**

THE SEVENTH WORD

2:35pm – 3:00pm

Hymn: “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” LSB #450 (st. 1-4)

Psalm: Psalm 143:1-2, 7-8

Pastor: ¹Hear my prayer, O LORD;
give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

People: ²**Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.**

Pastor: ⁷Answer me quickly, O LORD!
My spirit fails!
Hide not your face from me,
lest I be like those who go down to the pit.

People: ⁸**Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love,
for in you I trust.
Make me know the way I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.**

Reading: Luke 23:45-48

⁴⁵while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this man was innocent!” ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.

Choral Anthem Messiah’s Chancel Choir

Meditation: “Father, into Your hands...” Luke 23:44-46

Hymn: “O Darkest Woe” LSB #448

Prayer:

Pastor: Jesus said, “And I shall draw all men to Myself, when I am lifted up from the earth.”

People: **“God forbid that I should boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to me and I to the world!”**

Pastor: Let us pray God, our Heavenly Father, that when we are called upon to feel the sharpness of death, we will commit ourselves and our loved ones into His everlasting arm. Lord of life and death, bring us under the shadow of Your wings. Give us grace to await You silently and with patience. You are nearer to us than our breath. Before we feel pain, You have known the intensity. Before we are burdened, You are present in the valley of our shadow. Keep us and guard us as we pass through any difficult or untrod way. May we bring Your love to others close to death, and find our trust in you when death comes to us.

People: **Father, into Your hands we place our spirits.**

Pastor: Let us pray to God our Father, Who loved the world so much that anyone who believes in Him may not die, but have eternal life. O Holy Spirit, Worker of wonders, open the eyes that see only themselves like a dim image in a mirror; may they receive the light of life in Christ. Open the minds that seek the unknown God; may they know You in Christ. Open the hearts that hunger for meaning and purpose; may they find peace in Christ. Speed the day when all mankind shall find the joy of salvation in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Father, into Your hands we place our spirits.**

Pastor: May the God of peace, Who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in all goodness so that you may do His will; and may He make of us what He would have us be through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever!

People: **Amen.**

Hymn: “Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle” LSB #454

(When the pastors have left the chancel, the people silently pray this prayer, and then leave the nave of the church reverently)

Silent Prayer:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for Your love and mercy. We commit ourselves to You. Help us live our lives and use our abilities to Your service. May all our days be lived out in the restoration you have accomplished, through the death and Resurrection of Your dear Son. Let the redeeming power which has flowed from His sufferings pour into our spirits, so that we can leave this place in full assurance that our lives are restored. And grant us a humble heart felt appreciation and deep sense of gratitude for your sacrifice that our lives might reflect in the care and concern which we show others in the world where we live and work for Christ's sake. Amen.

✠ Solo Dei Gloria ✠



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