

## The Service of Tenebrae for Good Friday

On Good Friday the church remembers the crucifixion of her Lord. Tonight we hold what is called a Tenebrae service. Tenebrae means “darkness.”

While solemn, it is not a message of gloom that we hear. It is rather a service of worship of the Son of God as he offers up his life as the Lamb of God. His sacrifice secures our forgiveness and salvation.

**To God alone be glory!**

Tonight you will notice the following parts of our Tenebrae worship:

**Black altar:** *used only on Good Friday*

**Darkness:** *recalls the miraculous darkening of the sun while Christ was on the cross and the suffering Christ endured for us*

**Loud sound:** *recalls the sealing of Christ’s tomb as the large stone was rolled in front of the entrance (also foreshadows Christ’s breaking the bonds of death and exiting his sealed tomb on Easter)*

**Silence:** *a time of silence before the final word of the service, a time for quiet meditation*

***It is also a custom with this service that worshippers exit the sanctuary in silence after the final word is shared.***

## OPENING ANTHEM

## "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

### CALL TO WORSHIP

M: In the name of the Father, who loves us, in the name of the Son, who freed us from our sins by his own blood, in the name of the Holy Spirit, who comforts us with the Truth.

**C: Amen.**

### ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

### *The prophecy of the Savior's Work*

M: See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. Just as there were many who were appalled at him- his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness- so will he sprinkle many nations. . .

**C: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.**

M: He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

**C: Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

M: Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted.

**C: But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.**

**All: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

### HYMN 402,v. 1-3 Jesus"

### "Glory be to

Glory be to Jesus, who in bitter pains  
poured for me the lifeblood from his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;  
Blest be his compassion, infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages be the precious stream  
which from endless torment did the world redeem.

# *The Seven Words from the Cross*

## **Introduction to the Seven Words**

## **The Crucifixion**

**John 19:16-24**

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. <sup>17</sup>Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). <sup>18</sup>Here they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. <sup>19</sup>Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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." <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written." <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>"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.

**HYMN 568, v. 1 & 4**

**“His Robes for Mine”**

**His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!  
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered ‘neath God’s rage.  
Draped in his righteousness, I’m justified.  
In Christ I live, for in my place he died.  
I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:  
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.  
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.  
My praise—my all—shall be for Christ alone.**

**His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.  
Christ, God’s beloved, condemned as though his foe.  
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;  
I, as though he, embraced and welcomed home!  
I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:  
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.  
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.  
My praise—my all—shall be for Christ alone.**



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

Luke 23:26,32-34

**HYMN 569**

**“Arise, My Soul, Arise”**

*The cantor will sing v.1 & 3, You are welcome to join in on v.2 & 4*

*Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;  
the bleeding sacrifice in my behalf appears.  
Before the throne my Surety stands, Before the throne my Surety stands!  
My name is written on his hands, my name is written on his hands.*

**He ever lives above, for me to intercede,  
His all-redeeming love, his precious blood to plead.  
His blood atoned for every race, his blood atoned for every race,  
and sprinkles now the throne of grace, and sprinkles now the throne of grace.**

*Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;  
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.  
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry, “Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,  
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die, nor let that ransomed sinner die!”*

**My God is reconciled; his pard’ning voice I hear.  
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear.  
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw night,  
and “Father, Abba, Father!” cry, and “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.**



**“Today you will be with me in paradise”**

Luke 23:38-43

## RESPONSIVE WORDS

**M:** “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?”

**C:** **“These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

**M:** Therefore, they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in His temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

**C:** **Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst.**

**M:** The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. The Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water.

**C:** **And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”**

*Revelation 7:13-17*

**M:** Everlasting joy will crown their heads.

*Isaiah 35:10*

**C:** **Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.**



**“Dear woman, here is your son . . .  
here is your mother”**

*John 19:25-27*

## HYMN 430

## “Stricken, Smitten”

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.

If you think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great,  
Here you see its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.  
Mark the sacrifice appointed; see who bears the awful load—  
‘Tis the Word, the Lord’s Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.



**“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”**

Matthew 27:45-46 & Mark 15:33-34

## **Silence**



**“I am thirsty”**

John 19:28

### **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

**M:** Precious Savior, the darkness of your hours on the cross surrounds us. We cannot comprehend what you experienced as you faced the dreadful pains of hell in our place. We are awed by your commitment to our cause, which drove you on to the cross to die. Confident that in you we will find help in our every need, we come to make confession of our sins.

**C:** Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.

*A moment of silence for meditation*

**M:** The Savior’s work is finished. The price is paid in full: “We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. . . The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. . . ‘Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.’ And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.”

*Hebrews 10:10, 12, 15, 17-18*



## **“It is finished”**

John 19:29-30

*The cantors will sing “In Silent Pain”*



## **“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit”**

Luke 23:44-47

**Choir**

**“Were You There”**

**THE BURIAL**

**John 19:31-42**

**THE SOUND OF THE STREPIDUS:** reminds of the sealing of Christ’s Tomb & Christ’s breaking the bonds of death and exiting his sealed tomb on Easter

**SILENCE**

**THE FINAL WORD**

**After THE FINAL WORD, you may leave when you please.** The custom of this ancient service is that we leave in silence. Though we leave tonight without the exuberance characteristic of our congregation, we again invite you to join us this Easter Sunday when our exuberance returns in full. God bless you this day.

*Special thanks to all those who gave their God-given gifts to beautify this evening's service: the keyboardist, the singers, as well as the others behind the scenes.*

*A special welcome to our guests and visitors! Thank you for joining us as we have gathered to hear the good news of Jesus' work to save us.*

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**Join us for the culmination of the good news of Holy Week!**

- Easter Breakfast 8:30-9:30am
- Easter Egg Hunt 9:30am
- Easter worship 10am

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**If you'd like to find out more, or find more devotional resources:**

Beautiful Savior:     [www.welsfayetteville.org](http://www.welsfayetteville.org)  
                                  [Facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorFayetteville](https://www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorFayetteville)  
WELS (our national / international church body): [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

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**Welcome to our guests & visitors.** We are glad that you are here. Please join us again soon.

**We want you to feel welcome and comfortable.** Here are a few notes to help with that:

**Large print worship folders** are available. You'll find them at the entryway table. Please ask if we can be of help with this.

**Connection cards** are also located on the entryway table. We'd love the opportunity to get connected with you in additional ways – either in person or digitally. **You can hand the card to Pastor Glende, or simply place it into the offering box.**

**Restrooms** are located down the hallway on the right.

*And please ask if there are any other questions we can answer for you.*

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**You can reach us at:** Office: 910-868-1907 | Pastor Glende – Cell: 910-868-9663 | [didymusglende@gmail.com](mailto:didymusglende@gmail.com)