

**Good Friday Tre Ore "Three Hours Agony" Prayer Service - Friday April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 3:00 pm**

**Music Today**

**Mark Gould**

**AS WE GATHER**

Good Friday is a time of somber reflection as we approach the mystery of the cross. But the austerity of the Good Friday liturgy should not obscure the fact that this is a death we celebrate because of the life and forgiveness that flow from the cross for us and for our salvation. Because Good Friday is not an isolated event or day but part of God's planned revelation of His love, we listen to the entire story of God's work of salvation and deliverance. The message of the cross is the message of the Scriptures, planned by God, proclaimed by the prophets, and fulfilled in Christ. This liturgy continues what was begun on Holy Thursday and will not be complete until Easter Sunday adds its own message of hope and triumph.

*All are asked to enter the church in silence.*

**Confession and Forgiveness Psalm 51: 1-10**

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy and solemn day, the Friday we call good, we are confronted with the serious nature of our sin, which made this day necessary. It is proper for us to reflect on and confess our sinfulness. Let us join the woman caught in adultery, the tax collector in the temple, King David, and all who humble themselves before the Lord and say—God, be merciful to me a sinner.

*A time of silence is observed to call to mind the specifics of our sin and prepare for confession.*

Pastor: Let us make confession of our sins.

**People: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.**

Pastor: God is merciful. Even before we were aware of the burden of our sin, God planned our salvation. He sent His only-begotten Son into this world of sin and made Him to be sin for us. It was our sin that He bore to Calvary's cross. It was the penalty for our sin that He endured. And it was because of His sacrifice that our sins are forgiven. As your called and ordained pastor, and at the command and promise of our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, I point you to look at the cross in faith and see that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: As God's forgiven children, we pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives and live for His glory:

**Sung Confession: Offertory LSB 192**

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it  
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-  
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

**Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross, and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord’s passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen**

**Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown LSB 430 vv 1-3**

1 My song is love un-known, My Sav-ior’s love to  
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal-va-tion to be-  
 3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais-es  
 me, Love to the love-less shown That they might love-ly  
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would  
 sing; Re-sound-ing all the day Ho-san-nas to their  
 be. Oh, who am I That for my sake  
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in-deed,  
 King. Then “Cru-ci-fy!” Is all their breath,  
 My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?  
 Who at my need His life did spend!  
 And for His death They thirst and cry.

Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858 Text: Public domain

**The Passion of Our Lord**

**Reading**

*John 18:1–11*

(Betrayal and arrest of Jesus)

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” <sup>5</sup>They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said

to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded LSB 450 St. 1**

The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'O Sacred Head, Now Wounded'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, all on a treble clef. The first staff begins with a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and half notes.

O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
 Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
 O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
 Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858 Tune: Public domain

**Reading**

*John 18:12–27*

*(Jesus before the high priest and the denial of Peter)*

<sup>12</sup>So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup>First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said." <sup>22</sup>When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?" <sup>24</sup>Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." <sup>26</sup>One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" <sup>27</sup>Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded LSB 450 St. 2**

How pale Thou art with anguish,  
With sore abuse and scorn!  
How doth Thy face now languish  
That once was bright as morn!  
Grim death, with cruel rigor,  
Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor,  
Thy strength, in this sad strife.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

## Reading

*John 18:28–40*

*(Jesus before Pilate)*

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." <sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" <sup>40</sup>They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

**Hymn:            O Sacred Head, Now Wounded            LSB 450 St. 3**

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
Was all for sinners' gain;  
Mine, mine was the transgression,  
But Thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve Thy place;  
Look on me with Thy favor,  
And grant to me Thy grace.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

## Reading

*John 19:1–16a*

*(Jesus prepared for crucifixion)*

<sup>1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate

said to them, "Behold the man!" <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

<sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." <sup>13</sup>So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" <sup>15</sup>They 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." <sup>16</sup>So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

**Hymn:            O Sacred Head, Now Wounded                            LSB 450 St. 4**

My Shepherd, now receive me;  
My Guardian, own me Thine.  
Great blessings Thou didst give me,  
O Source of gifts divine.  
Thy lips have often fed me  
With words of truth and love;  
Thy Spirit oft hath led me  
To heav'nly joys above.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

**Reading**

*John 19:16b–24*

*(The crucifixion of Jesus)*

<sup>16</sup>So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, <sup>17</sup>and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." <sup>20</sup>Many 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. <sup>21</sup>So 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.'" <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

<sup>23</sup>When 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, <sup>24</sup>so 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,

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded****LSB 450 St. 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.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

**Reading***John 19:25–30**(Jesus' mother and His death)*

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

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." <sup>29</sup>A 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. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded****LSB 450 St. 6**

My Savior, be Thou near me  
 When death is at my door;  
 Then let Thy presence cheer me,  
 Forsake me nevermore!  
 When soul and body languish,  
 O leave me not alone,  
 But take away mine anguish  
 By virtue of Thine own!

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

**Reading***John 19:31–37**(Jesus' side is pierced)*

<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. <sup>32</sup>So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. <sup>35</sup>He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. <sup>36</sup>For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." <sup>37</sup>And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

**Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded****LSB 450 St. 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.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

*Silence*

**Reflection**

**What's So Good About Good Friday**

*Pastor Aaron Boerst*

**Bidding Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, the Bride of Christ and the bearer of His Word of truth, that God would guide us through all adversity and temptation, that He would enrich us in His mercy, and that He would equip us for the purpose of making disciples of all nations. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, and for all the people of God, by whom the Holy Spirit gathers and sanctifies His Church on earth, that our pastors might remain faithful to their Lord, that our leaders might remain steadfast in the Word, and that we, along with our brothers and sisters, might remain true to the will of God. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let us pray for all who suffer, for those who battle illness and isolation, sorrow and loss, that they may be comforted by God and strengthened by the same until that day when all illness is ended, all isolation is diminished, all sorrow is cast off, and death itself is put to death. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let us pray for all those outside the church, whose knowledge of God is limited by their own reason & self-interests, that our Lord would condition their hearts to receive us and the witness we share, that thru us He call them to faith in Jesus Christ by the work of the Holy Spirit, and gather them into the fellowship of His family. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let us pray for the seeker, whose heart is drawn by the desire to know God but whose will struggles with uncertainty, that the Holy Spirit might work mightily in them and in those who witness until that day when they might stand in the presence of the Almighty and see God face to face. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are needful for their salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Finally, let us pray for all things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

**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.**

**Parting Song: Jesus, Remember Me LSB 767 (Sung 3 Times to Remember the Holy Trinity)**



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when You come in - to Your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–94 Text and tune: © 1981 Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, Taizé Community, France, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005858

***The Strepitus (Closing of the Tomb)  
(A loud noise will be heard)***

**Parting**

*You are asked to leave in silence anticipating the joys of Easter while contemplating the solemnity of Good Friday. The omission of the benediction tonight, like last night, indicates that our worship is not complete. We return tomorrow to take Vigil on Holy Saturday and await the celebration of Easter morning.*