

Welcome to Bethania Lutheran Kirke



Good Friday

March 29, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Order of Worship
for
Friday, March 29, 2024

GATHER IN SILENCE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Merciful God,

your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WELCOME

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:13—53:12

¹³See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

¹⁴Just as there were many who were astonished at him
— so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals —

¹⁵so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

¹Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

HYMN: "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us" WOV #666 vs. 1, 2
(to the tune of "Faith of Our Fathers," LBW #500)



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 1:

John 18:12-27

¹²So the band of soldiers, with the officer and the Judean attendants, arrested Jesus and tied him up. ¹³They led him off first to Annas; he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴It was Caiaphas who had given advice to the Judeans that the best thing would be for one man to die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. That other disciple was known to the high priest; he went in to the high priest's courtyard along with Jesus, ¹⁶while Peter stood outside by the gate. So the other disciple, being known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the woman at the gate. Then he brought Peter inside.

¹⁷The woman at the gate spoke to Peter.

"You're not one of that man's disciples too, are you?" she asked.

"No, I'm not," he replied.

¹⁸It was cold. The slaves and the attendants had made a charcoal fire, and they were standing around it, warming themselves. Peter was standing there with them and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest asked Jesus about his disciples, and about his teaching.

²⁰"I've spoken to the world quite openly," replied Jesus. "I always taught in the synagogue and in the Temple, where all the Judeans gather. I didn't say anything in secret. ²¹Why are you asking me? There were people who listened to me. Ask them what I said to them. Don't you see? They know what I said."

²²When Jesus said that, one of the attendants standing there gave him a slap on the face.

"Is that how you answer the high priest?" he said.

²³"If I've said something wrong," replied Jesus, "give evidence about what was wrong with it. But if what I said was true, why are you hitting me?"

²⁴So Annas sent him off, still tied up, to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Simon Peter, meanwhile, was standing there and warming himself.

“You’re not one of his disciples, are you?” they asked him. He denied it. “No, I’m not,” he said.

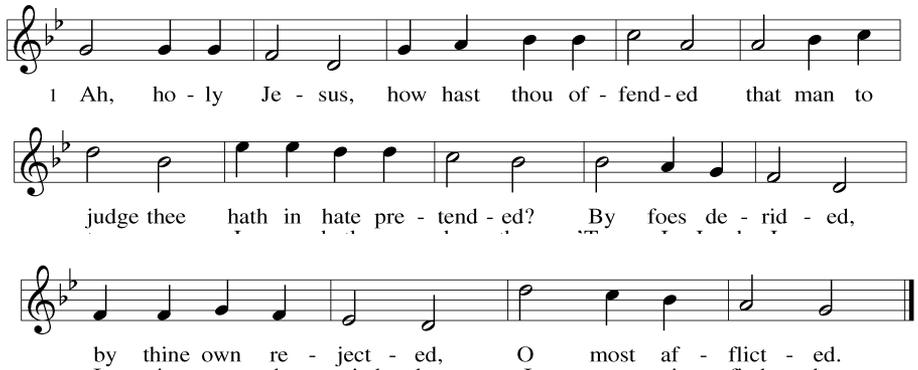
²⁶Then one of the high priest’s slaves, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, spoke up.

“Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?” he said.

²⁷Peter denied it once more. Instantly, the cock crowed.

The first candle is extinguished.

HYMN— “Ah, Holy Jesus” LBW #123 vs. 1



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that man to
judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 2:

John 18:28-40

²⁸So they took Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, the governor’s residence. It was early in the morning. They didn’t themselves go inside the Praetorium. They were anxious not to pollute themselves, so that they would still be able to eat the Passover.

²⁹So Pilate went outside and spoke to them.

"What's the charge, then?" he asked. "What have you got against this fellow?"

³⁰"If he wasn't doing wicked things," they replied, "we wouldn't have handed him over to you."

³¹"Take him yourselves," said Pilate to them, "and judge him by your own law."

"We're not allowed to put anyone to death," replied the Judeans. ³²(This was so that the word of Jesus might come true, when he had indicated what sort of death he was going to die.)

³³So Pilate went back into the Praetorium and spoke to Jesus.

"Are you the king of the Judeans?" he asked.

³⁴"Was it *your* idea to ask that?" asked Jesus. "Or did other people tell you about me?"

³⁵"I'm not a Judean, am I?" retorted Pilate. "Your own people, and the chief priests, have handed you over to me! What have you done?"

³⁶"My kingdom isn't the sort that grows in this world," replied Jesus. "If my kingdom were from this world, my supporters would have fought to stop me being handed over to the Judeans. So, then, my kingdom is not the sort that comes from here."

³⁷"So!" said Pilate. "You *are* a king, are you?"

"You're the one who's calling me a king," replied Jesus. "I was born for this; I've come into the world for this: to give evidence about the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

³⁸"Truth!" said Pilate. "What's that?"

With those words, he went back out to the Judeans.

"I find this man not guilty!" he said to them. ³⁹"But look here: you've got this custom that I should let someone free at Passover-time. So what about it? Would you like me to release 'the king of the Judeans'?"

⁴⁰"No!" they shouted. "We don't want him! Give us Barabbas!"

Now Barabbas was an insurrectionist.

Second candle is extinguished.

HYMN: "Ah, Holy Jesus" LBW #123 vs. 2, 3



2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath



treã - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for man's a - tone - ment,



I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.

MEDITATION:

Pastor Paul Nuechterlein

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 3:

John 19:1-7

¹So Pilate then took Jesus and had him flogged. ²The soldiers wove a crown of thorns, put it on his head, and dressed him up in a purple robe. ³Then they came up to him and said, "Hail, king of the Judeans!" And they slapped him.

⁴Pilate went out again.

"Look," he said to them, "I'm bringing him out to you, so that you'll know I find no guilt in him."

⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.

"Look!" said Pilate. "Here's the man!"

⁶So when the chief priests and their attendants saw him, they gave a great shout.

“Crucify him!” they yelled. “Crucify him!”

“Take him yourselves and crucify him!” said Pilate. “I find him not guilty!”

⁷“We’ve got a law,” replied the Judeans, “and according to that law he deserves to die! He made himself the son of God!”

Third candle is extinguished.

HYMN: “Ah, Holy Jesus” LBW #123 vs. 4, 5



4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 4:

John 19:8-16a

⁸When Pilate heard that, he was all the more afraid. ⁹He went back into the Praetorium and spoke to Jesus.

“Where do you come from?” he asked.

But Jesus gave him no answer.

¹⁰So Pilate addressed him again.

"Aren't you going to speak to me?" he said. "Don't you know that I have the authority to let you go, and the authority to crucify you?"

¹¹"You couldn't have any authority at all over me," replied Jesus, "unless it was given to you from above. That's why the person who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

¹²From that moment on, Pilate tried to let him go.

But the Judeans shouted at him.

"If you let this fellow go," they said, "you are no friend of Caesar! Everyone who sets himself up as a king is speaking against Caesar!"

¹³So when Pilate heard them saying that, he brought Jesus out and sat down at the official judgment seat, called "the Pavement" (in Hebrew, "Gabbatha"). ¹⁴It was the Preparation day of the Passover, and it was about midday.

"Look," said Pilate, "here is your king!"

¹⁵"Take him away!" they shouted. "Take him away! Crucify him!"

"Do you want me to crucify your king?" asked Pilate.

"We have no king," the chief priests replied, "except Caesar!"

¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Fourth candle is extinguished.

HYMN: "Oh Sacred Head, Now Wounded" LBW #117 vs. 1, 2



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How art thou pale with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does that vis - age lan - guish which once was bright as morn!



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 5:

John 19:16b-22

So they took Jesus away. ¹⁷He carried his own cross, and went to the spot called "Skull Place" (in Hebrew, "Golgotha"). ¹⁸That was where they crucified him. They also crucified two others, one on either side of him, with Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹Pilate wrote a notice and had it placed on the cross:

JESUS OF NAZARETH
THE KING OF THE JUDEANS

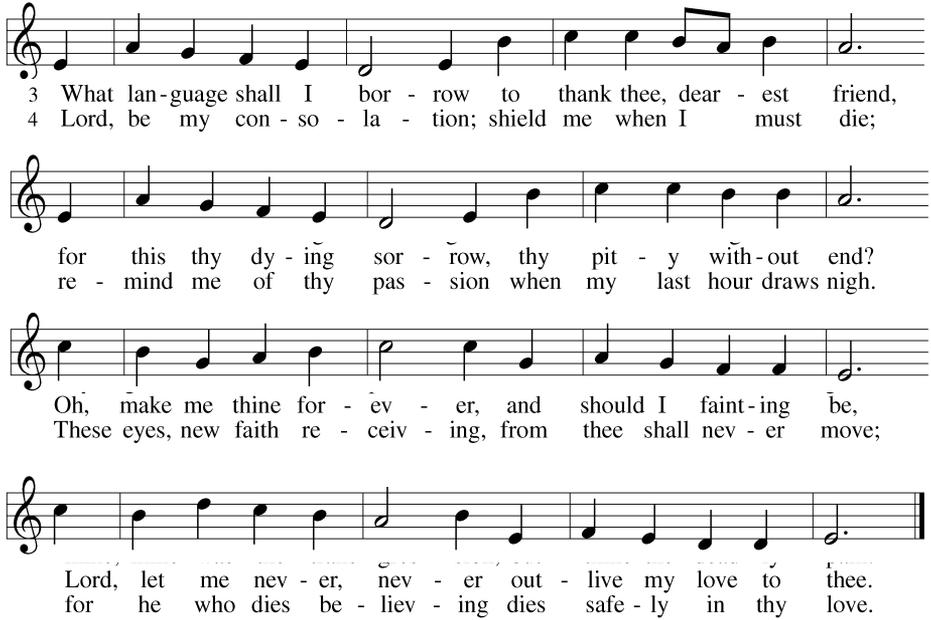
²⁰Lots of the Judeans read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was close to the city. It was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.

²¹So the chief priests said to Pilate, "Don't write 'The king of the Judeans'! Write that he *said*, 'I am the king of the Judeans'!"

²²"What I've written," replied Pilate, "I've written."

Fifth candle is extinguished.

HYMN: "Oh Sacred Head, Now Wounded" LBW #117 vs. 3, 4



3 What lan-guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

for this thy dy - ñg sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for he who dies be - liev - ing dies safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, c. 1250; tr. composite

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500, adapt. Hans L. Hassler, 1564–1612

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 6:

John 19:23-30

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, giving each soldier one part. When they came to his tunic, they found that it was a single piece of cloth, woven from top to bottom.

²⁴“Let’s not tear it,” they said to each other. “Let’s throw lots for it, to see who’s going to have it.”

This was so that the Bible would be fulfilled, when it says,

*They took my clothes and divided them up,
They threw the dice to decide on my garments.*

And that's what the soldiers did.

²⁵Jesus's mother was standing beside his cross. So was her sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, with Mary Magdalene too. ²⁶Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple he specially loved, standing there.

"Mother," he said. "Look! there's your son."

²⁷Then he spoke to the disciple.

"Look!" he said. "There's your mother."

From that time, the disciple welcomed her into his own home.

²⁸After this, Jesus knew that everything had at last been completed.

"I'm thirsty," he said (fulfilling what the Bible had said).

²⁹There was a jar there full of sour wine. So they put a sponge filled with the sour wine on a hyssop rod and lifted it to his mouth.

³⁰Jesus drank it.

"It is accomplished!" he said.

Then he let his head drop, and gave up his spirit.

Sixth candle is extinguished.

HYMN: "Were You There" LBW #92 vs. 1, 2



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Bidding Prayer

P: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for Elizabeth and Paul, our bishops, for Heather, our pastor, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

P: Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful Witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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 PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN, PART 7:

John 19:31-42

³¹It was the day of Preparation. The coming sabbath was a very special one, and the Judeans were anxious that the bodies should not remain on the cross during the sabbath. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken, and their bodies taken away.

³²So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the men who were crucified with Jesus, first the one, then the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn't break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers thrust a spear into his side, and blood and water came out. ³⁵(The one who saw it is giving evidence, and his evidence is true. He knows he's speaking the truth, so that you too may believe.) ³⁶These things, you see, came about so that the Bible might come true: "No bone of his will be broken." ³⁷And again, another passage in the Bible says, "They shall look on the one whom they pierced."

³⁸After this, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate if he could take Jesus's body away. He was a disciple of Jesus, but he kept it secret because he was afraid of the Judeans. Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took his body. ³⁹Nicodemus came too (the man who, at first, had visited Jesus by night). He brought a concoction of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds in weight. ⁴⁰They took Jesus's body, and wrapped it up in cloths with the spices, according to the normal Judean burial custom.

⁴¹There was a garden in the place where he was crucified. In the garden, there was a new tomb in which nobody had ever been buried. ⁴²So, because the tomb was nearby, and because of the Judean day of Preparation, they buried Jesus there.

Seventh candle is extinguished.

HYMN: "Were You There" LBW #92 vs. 3



3 Were yóu there when they pieréced him in the side?



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?



Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were yóu there when they pieréced him in the side?

We depart in silence.

Worship continues at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday.