



***The Son of God
Goes Forth to War***

St. John's
Evangelical Lutheran Church
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St John's

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Good Friday—the second of the three holy days

10 April 2020 1:00 P.M.

Welcome, all! May you find joy here in God's house as He draws us closer to Himself through His message of forgiveness.

Pre-service Pondering:

—Kurt J. Eggert

- 1. God was there on Calvary, God the Father's only Son, dying that the world might live, there on Calvary.*
- 2. All the world on Calvary, crucified the Prince of life, pierced the hands of God's own Son, there on Calvary.*
- 3. Sin was there on Calvary, all the sins of ev'ryone, laid upon God's sinless Lamb there on Calvary.*
- 4. Love was there on Calvary, streaming from the heart of God, reaching out for ev'ryone there on Calvary.*
- 5. Life was there on Calvary, flowing from His wounded side, spent that death itself might die there on Calvary.*
- 6. We were there on Calvary; we were pardoned, saved, set free, saved to live eternally—blessed Calvary!*

Notes on today's worship

On Good Friday the church remembers the crucifixion of her Lord. Good Friday is part of the larger celebration of *the mystery of salvation* begun on Maundy Thursday and culminating in the glorious message on Sunday: "He is risen!" These three holy days (*Triduum*) are intimately and wonderfully connected.

On the first Good Friday, Jesus hung on the cross from about 9:00 A.M. until about 3:00 P.M. About noon the sun darkened. How appropriate for us to gather at this hour to consider our Savior's suffering!

Our Good Friday afternoon service encourages us to reflect on the Son of God who offered Himself as our Substitute. Yet we celebrate the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross, with words and music about our Lord's crucifixion and about our repentance over sin, which made the cross necessary.

May God's Word, spoken and sung today, deepen our hatred for sin, increase our love for our Savior, strengthen us to glorify God's and benefit our fellow humans, prepare us for the awesome joys of Easter, and increase our longing for the inexpressible excellence of eternal life.

The Lord Serves His People

Welcome

Hymn

There is a Green Hill Far Away
by Cecil F. Alexander, alt, in the public domain

1. There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,
Where our dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.
2. We may not know, we cannot tell what pains He had to bear;
But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there.

3. He died that we might be forgiven, He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heav'n, saved by His precious blood.
4. Oh, dearly, dearly He has loved! And we now love Him too
And trust in His redeeming blood and try His will to do.

Prayer of the Day for Good Friday

Pastor: *God Most Holy, look with mercy on this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over into the hands of the wicked, and to suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to Him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

Congregation: Amen.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 22 (p. 71 in the hymnal)

Refrain

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*

Why are You so far from saving Me?

I am a worm and not a man,*
scorned by men and despised by the people.

All who see Me mock Me;*

they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

“He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue Him.*
Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him. ***Refrain***

My strength is dried up, and My tongue sticks to the roof of My mouth;*

You lay Me in the dust of death.

A band of evil men has encircled Me,*
they have pierced My hands and My feet.

They divide My garments among them*
and cast lots for My clothing.

But You, O Lord, be not far off;*

O My strength, come quickly to help Me.

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. *Refrain*

Passion History of our Lord

Part 6

for Good Friday, compiled from the four Gospels, unabridged

He was Crucified, Died, and was Buried

Carrying his own cross, he went out. As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, who was on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross behind Jesus.

A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ Then ‘they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!”’ For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. They brought Jesus to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with myrrh (gall); but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.

And they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on

his right, the other on his left, and Jesus in the middle. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

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. It was the third hour when they crucified him. And sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

Pilate had a written notice of the charge against him prepared and fastened to the cross above his head. It read: THIS IS 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.”

Hymn

#117 (stanza 1-2)

The Passion History continues

The people stood watching. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself, if you are the Son of God!”

In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him and even sneered at him among themselves. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One. He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! Let this Christ, this King of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

[Later] one of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him [again]: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Hymn

#117 (stanza 3-4)

The Passion History continues

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.

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*”—which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.”

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. Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He soaked the sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, lifted it to Jesus’ lips, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last, bowed his head, and gave up his spirit.

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus’ resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and heard his cry and saw how he died, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely this man was the Son of God!” The centurion praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”

When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these

things. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee's sons. In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

Hymn

#117 (stanza 5)

The Passion History continues

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. **That one** 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."

Now there was a man named Joseph, a prominent member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea. He had secretly become a disciple of Jesus and was waiting for the kingdom of God. As evening approached, he went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already

died. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.

So Joseph bought some linen cloth and took down the body. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about 75 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, cut out of the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. They rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee were sitting there opposite the tomb and saw how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

Hymn

#117 (stanzas 6-7)

Sermon

based on the Passion History

The Great Battle for You

Hymn

#138

Confession of Sins, Announcement of Forgiveness

P: Have you sinned against God?

C: Yes, more times than I wish to remember.

P: Are you sorry for all of your sins? By this I mean, are you ready to turn away from all that God labels sin?

C: Yes, and I ask God to strengthen my understanding of

right and wrong through the Bible. May God help me to hate sin and to love Him.

P: Have all your sins been atoned for?

C: Yes, by my Lord Jesus Christ on the first Good Friday.

P: Do you hope to live with God in His home for eternity?

C: Yes, because God has promised this to all who trust in Him. He even gave me the faith to believe in Jesus, and to call Him my Savior, and to want Him in my heart, and to follow Him as my Lord.

P: As you believe, so may it be unto you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. May the hearts of all God's people be filled with His peace. May we feel as forgiven as He says we are.

Prayers of the Church

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.

Hymn

LAPPY p. 226

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suff'ring and shame;
and I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it someday for a crown.

2. Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me,
For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
to bear it to dark Calvary. ***Refrain***

3. In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
to pardon and justify me. ***Refrain***

4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me someday to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. ***Refrain***

✦ Our Easter Sunday service begins at 9:00 A.M.

If you have questions or comments about this service, call
Pastor Cordes tomorrow (651-345-3523).

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Serving the Lord and us

Organist: Joyce Zillgitt