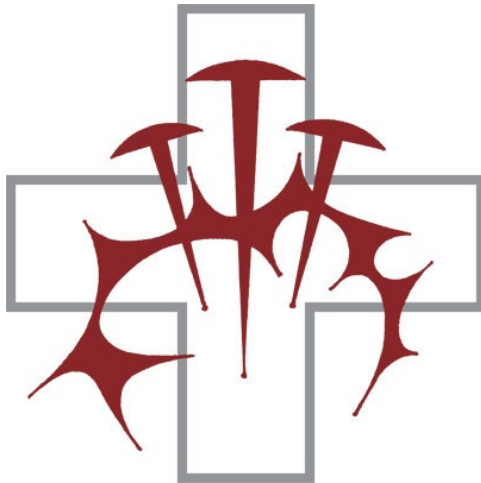




# St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Good Friday**  
**March 29, 2024**  
**12:15 and 7 p.m.**



Welcome to the Lord's house today—this place that God makes holy by His presence among us. Whether you are a visitor or a long time member, God has good things to give you today, and we invite you to lift up your hearts and give your attention to the Word of God in worship today. Please fill out an attendance card in the pew rack in front of you and place it in the collection plate at the front of each pew section.

*Silence*

## Call to Worship

P King David wrote these powerful prophetic words, which would be uttered by an innocent man during His unjust execution many years later:

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

P He suffered immense physical and psychological torture.

C **He was ridiculed and mocked. His joints dislocated, His hands and feet pierced.**

P But this wasn't the worst thing He suffered. At Calvary, hanging on the tree, our sinless God in human flesh took on the sin of all humanity.

C **He took my sin upon Himself. He endured the heartache of separation from His Father on my behalf.**

P Who is this man who would do such a thing?

C **Jesus, the only Son of God. Jesus, sacrificed for me.**

## Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

*LSB 440*

Jesus, I will ponder now  
On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow  
For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith  
May the image cherish  
Of Your suffering, pain, and death  
That I may not perish.

Make me see Your great distress,  
Anguish, and affliction,  
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness  
And Your crucifixion;  
Make me see how scourge and rod,  
Spear and nails did wound You,  
How for them You died, O God,  
Who with thorns had crowned You.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone  
Make me see Your passion,  
But its cause to me make known  
And its termination.  
Ah! I also and my sin

Wrought Your deep affliction;  
This indeed the cause has been  
Of Your crucifixion.

Grant that I Your passion view  
With repentant grieving.  
Let me not bring shame to You  
By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun  
Ev'ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son  
Suffered without measure?

If my sins give me alarm  
And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
Peace of conscience give me.  
Help me see forgiveness won  
By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son,  
God must have compassion!

Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You,  
Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give You love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,  
That I may in heav'n above  
Sing Your praise forever.

## **Invocation**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.

## **Confession and Absolution**

*(sung)*

**How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss**

**The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory**

P “I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.”

C **Our sinful nature leads us to despise the law of God.**

P “All who see me mock me.”

C **We mock Jesus when we choose sin over holiness.**

P “Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.”

C **In our sin, we have ignored the needs of others.**

P “For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet.”

C **It is our sin that held Him on the cross.**

P The punishment for sin is death. Not just a physical death, but complete separation from God.

C **We confess our sin and acknowledge our inability to pay the price required.**

P “He trusts in the Lord; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”

C **We cannot save ourselves. Deliver us, O God. Rescue us from this body of death.**

*(sung)*

**Behold the man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished**

P “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

*(Rom. 6:3-4)*

“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.”

*(1 Pet. 2:24)*

“For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” *(Rom. 6:10-11)*

*(sung)*

**I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## **Hymn**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

*LSB 425*

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12*

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For 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, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**Choir** (7pm)

“He Looked Beyond My Fault”

*Words and Music by Dottie Rambo, arr. by Russell Mauldin*

## Epistle

*Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9*

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need... In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

“O Darkest Woe”

*LSB 448*

O darkest woe!  
Ye tears, forth flow!  
Has earth so sad a wonder?  
God the Father’s only Son  
Now is buried yonder.

O sorrow dread!  
Our God is dead,  
Upon the cross extended.  
There His love enlivened us  
As His life was ended.

O child of woe:  
Who struck the blow  
That killed our gracious Master?  
“It was I,” thy conscience cries,  
“I have wrought disaster!”

Thy Bridegroom dead!  
God’s Lamb has bled  
Upon thy sin forever,

Pouring out His sinless self  
In this vast endeavor.

Such innocence!  
His countenance  
A fount of faith undying!  
Worlds on worlds cannot contain  
Grief at Him here lying.

O Virgin's Son,  
What Thou hast won  
Is far beyond all telling;  
How our God, detested, died,  
Hell and devil felling.

O Jesus Christ,  
Who sacrificed  
Thy life for lifeless mortals:  
Be my life in death and bring  
Me to heaven's portals!

## Holy Gospel

*John 19:17-30*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." 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. 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.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." 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, 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, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother,



“Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” 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. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## ♪ “Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”

(Music on pp. 10-11)

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson and Michael Farren  
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What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer.  
There is no more for heaven now to give.  
He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom,  
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.  
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.  
For my life is wholly bound to his.  
Oh, how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken,  
For by my side the Savior, he will stay.  
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing,  
For in my need, his power is displayed.  
To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me.  
Through the deepest valley he will lead.  
Oh, the night has been won, and I shall overcome!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven,  
The future sure, the price, it has been paid.  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.  
To this I hold: my sin has been defeated.  
Jesus now, and ever, is my plea.  
Oh, the chains are released, I can sing: I am free!  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,  
For he has said that he will bring me home.

And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne.  
To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus.  
All the glory evermore to him.  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat:  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

## Sermon

### The Statement of Faith

*Dr. Martin Luther's Explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed*

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own, and live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

## Offering

### Reproaches

Jesus: Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O my people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus: Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people, and

wherein have I offended you? Answer me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given me over and delivered me to those who persecute me. For I have fed you with my Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given me gall and vinegar to drink. O my people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus: Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer me. What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank you God? O my people.

**C Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.**

## The 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.**

## The Benediction

**P** The Lord bless thee and keep thee.  
The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and + give thee peace.

**C Amen.**

## Hymn

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

*LSB 451*

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.

Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning,  
Was there ever grief like His?  
Friends through fear His cause disowning,  
Foes insulting His distress;  
Many hands were raised to wound Him,  
None would intervene to save;  
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him  
Was the stroke that justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly  
Nor suppose the evil great  
Here may view 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.

Here we have a firm foundation,  
Here the refuge of the lost:  
Christ, the Rock of our salvation,  
Is the name of which we boast;  
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,  
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!  
None shall ever be confounded  
Who on Him their hope have built.  
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*The congregation will exit in silence.*

## **Acknowledgments**

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### “How Deep the Father’s Love For Us”

Words and Music by Stuart Townend

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