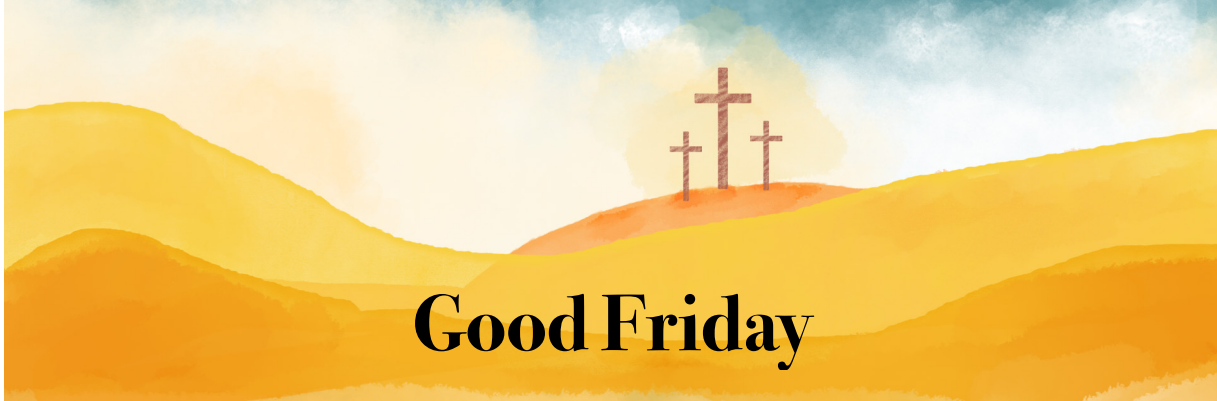


Survey the Wondrous **CROSS!**



Good Friday

April 18, 2025

Pastor: David Reim 549-5250

Organist: Julie Reim

Ushers: Willy and Roman

We gather on this anniversary of Jesus Crucifixion and Death to survey the Wondrous Cross! We will see how the symbol of the greatest cruelty and punishment could become the symbol of the greatest love and salvation. We are here to see God's love in action and give all praise and thanksgiving to our Saviour as we commemorate His death and His amazing gift of love. We begin with prayer.

Opening Prayer: Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your own dear Son, but delivered Him up for us all, that He might bear our sins in His own body upon the cross. Grant Your Holy Spirit that He may fill our hearts with wonder and praise that we may be filled with steadfast faith in Him and in true love, serve Him all our days. In His Name. Amen.

The Invocation:

We Meditate on Christ's Supreme Sacrifice and infinite Love this Good Friday in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong:



A - men.

Opening Hymn: 175 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Men's Choir sings stanzas 1&2

1. 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.

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

Congregation sings stanzas 3&4

3. 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?

4. 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.

Confession of Sins: Based on Isaiah 53 & Galatians 3:13

P: He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

C: And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him. He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

P: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

C: Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

P: But He was wounded for our transgressions,

C: He was bruised for our iniquities;

P: The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

C: And by His stripes we are healed.

P: Let us, then, confess our sins:

C & P: O Gracious Lord, We confess that we have sinned and fallen miserably short of Your Glory and Holiness. We have placed our own wants and desires above other people and even above You. We confess that our sins are so dark that nothing less than the death of your Son could pay for them. But since Jesus died for us on this day, we confidently plead for your forgiveness for Christ's sake.

Absolution:

P: Beloved, "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree')." Through His suffering and death, the penalty for our sin has been paid. You are forgiven! You are reconciled to God as His dear Children. "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!"

Cong. Sing:

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse For my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing:
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

The Crucifixion Account

The First Reading: Jesus dies on the Cross

Hymn: 170 O Perfect Life of Love

O perfect life of love! All, all, is finished now,
All that He left His throne above To do for us below.

No work is left undone Of all the Father willed;
His toil, His sorrows, one by one, The Scriptures have fulfilled.

In perfect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice, I cling by faith to Thee.

The Second Reading: The Burial of our Lord

Confession of Faith: Luther's Explanation to the 2nd Article

C: 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. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn: 142 st. 1-4 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

1. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of all men bearing;
And laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing!
Goes patient on, grow weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer;
Bears shame and stripes, and wounds and death,
Anguish and mockery, and saith,
"Willing all this I suffer."
2. This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great Friend,
The Lamb of God, our Savior;
Him God the Father chose to send

To gain for us His favor.
"Go forth, My Son," the Father saith,
"And free men from the fear of death,
From guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Thy Passion men shall share
The fruit of Thy salvation."

3. "Yea, Father, yea, most willingly
I'll bear what Thou commandest;
My will conforms to Thy decree,
I do what Thou demandest."
O wondrous Love, what hast Thou done!
The Father offers up His Son!
The Son, content, descendeth!
O Love, how strong Thou art to save!
Thou beddest Him within the grave
Whose word the mountains rendeth.

4. From morn till eve my theme shall be
Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
To sacrifice myself for Thee
Shall be my aim and pleasure.
My stream of life shall ever be
A current flowing ceaselessly,
Thy constant praise outpouring.
I'll treasure in my memory,
O Lord, all Thou hast done for me,
Thy gracious love adoring.

Good Friday Sermon:

Text: Isaiah 53:4-12

"4 Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are

healed. 6 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. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.

8 He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. 9 And they made His grave with the wicked—But with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. 11 He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied.

By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.”

Before the Father, Jesus Was Executed!

Hymn: The Power of the Cross

Men’s Choir: Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

Refrain

This the pow’r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath;
We stand forgiven at the cross.

2. Oh, to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
Crowning Your blood-stained brow.

Refrain

This the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath;
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Congregation Join: Now the daylight flees;

3. Now the daylight flees; Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows his head
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life;
“Finished!” The victory cry.

Refrain

This the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath;
We stand forgiven at the cross.

4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
For through Your suff'ring I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love!

Refrain

This the pow'r of the cross: Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

The Offering: (Melody Hymn 151)

Sing: Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death,
our foe, Who, Thyself for me once giving to the darkest depths
of woe,— Through thy sufferings, death, and merit I eternal life
inherit: Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus,
unto Thee.

Prayers:

- *Communion Liturgy* -

The Offeratory: "O Sacred Head"

What language shall I borrow To thank You, dearest Friend,

For all Your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?
Oh, make me Yours forever; And should I fainting prove,
Lord, let me never, never Outlive Your dying love!

The Preface: "O Sacred Head"

Sung by Pastor & Cong.

Pastor: The Lord is with His people Now may He be with you.

Cong: The Lord is with His servants; May He be with you, too.

Pastor: Now lift your hearts to praise him.

**Cong: To God we lift them high. 'Tis right to praise and thank
Him Who to His world draws nigh.**

The Great Thanksgiving: Pastor

It is right always and everywhere to give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who gave His life on the cross for us that, freed from the power of sin and death, we might have eternal joy in Your presence, renewed in faith and life. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we praise Your name.

The Sanctus "Liebster Jesu"

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Heav'n and earth proclaim the story
Of Your majesty adored, Of Your kingdom, pow'r, and glory.
With hosannas now we meet You;
With our palms and praises greet You;

Hail! Hosanna! Blest is He Who in God's own name draws near us!
Hail! Hosanna! Blest are we Since we have God's love to cheer us:
Blood outpoured and body broken, Of eternal love the token.

Preparing our Hearts

In this sacrament Christ comes to us individually in His Love and gives us His body and blood which He shed on the cross this day to pay for our sins. To receive this sacrament worthily means to come with a true repentant heart and faith in Jesus for His full forgiveness. Therefore we prepare our hearts by examining ourselves in the light of God's law.

Examine yourself according to the first 3 commandments:

Ask yourself, do I fear, love and trust in God above all things? Do I put God first in every area of my life? Do I give honor and glory to His name with everything I do in life? Do I delight in His word and read it daily? When the making and spending of money takes first place in my

life, I am not loving God above all things. Every time my mind strays to impure thoughts, I am not putting God above all. Every time I put something else before worshiping God, I show my sinful heart.

C: Oh God, be merciful to me the sinner.

Examine yourself according to the 5th commandment:

Do I love my neighbor as myself? Have I ever gotten angry or called someone a nasty name even if only in my mind? Have I done anything to hurt another person either physically or emotionally? God says, whoever hates his brother is a murderer and whoever is angry with his brother is deserving of everlasting fires of hell.

C: Have Mercy on me, Oh Lord.

Examine yourself according to the 9th - 10th commandments: "You shall not covet." "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." Have I envied others? Have I had a longing desire for things that are beyond my ability to obtain? Have worldly things taken up a place in my heart and become an object of my love and desire?

Every time I have thoughts of lust, greed, envy, covetousness, I show that my heart is given to false gods.

C: Lord, do not cast me away from your presence, but forgive me for Jesus' sake.

If you feel the weight of sin in your heart and sorrow over them, then the Spirit has done His work to convict you. Now He also comes to you to comfort you with God's love and mercy. He has justified you by His grace through the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for all your sins. Now He gives you His body and blood which has paid the penalty for all your sin. Rejoice, your sins are forgiven.

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 Consecration:

The Agnus Dei: Hymn 146

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord,
Whose blood, once shed, true life restored,

Impart Your joy, our faith increase.
Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your Peace.

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis

Sing: O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace: A Light to lead the Gentiles unto your holy hill, the Glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All Glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, forever Three-in-One; For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding through all eternity. Amen.

Benediction: "O Sacred Head"

Sung by Pastor & Cong:

Pastor: The good Lord bless and keep you,
Lift up His shining face, With Favor look upon you
And grant eternal peace.

**Cong: To Father, Son, and Spirit,
Most gracious One-in-Three
Be glory, praise, and blessing
Now and eternally!**

Closing Hymn: 142 st. 5-6 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

5. Of death I am no more afraid,
New life from Thee is flowing;
Thy cross affords me cooling shade
When noonday's sun is glowing.
When by my grief I am opprest,
On Thee my weary soul shall rest
Serenely as on pillows.
Thou art my Anchor when by woe
My bark is driven to and fro
On trouble's surging billows.

6. And when Thy glory I shall see
And taste Thy kingdom's pleasure,
Thy blood my royal robe shall be,
My joy beyond all measure.

When I appear before Thy throne,
Thy righteousness shall be my crown,-
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought
As Thine own bride, I shall be brought
To stand in joy beside Thee.



Easter Sunday: We look forward to our joyful Easter Celebration on
Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.
There will be no Sunday School or Bible class on Easter.