

Or. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

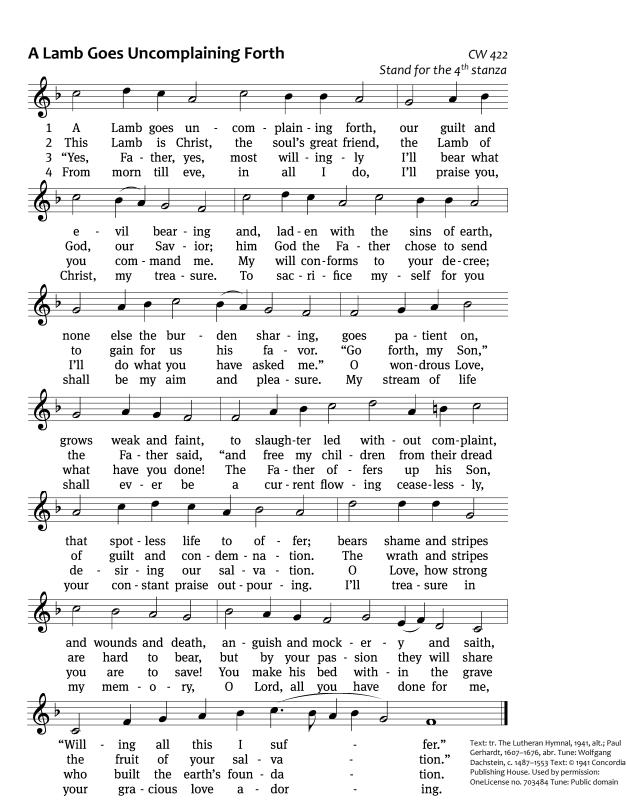
1417 Parkview Drive Kewaskum, Wisconsin 262-626-2680 www.stlucaswels.org

Good Friday: The Way of the Cross

March 29, 2024

The congregation gathers in silence. Please set all personal electronic devices to silent mode. During the service the organ is played softly, only loud enough to support the congregation singing. Following the tolling of the bell, the minister enters in silence.





In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

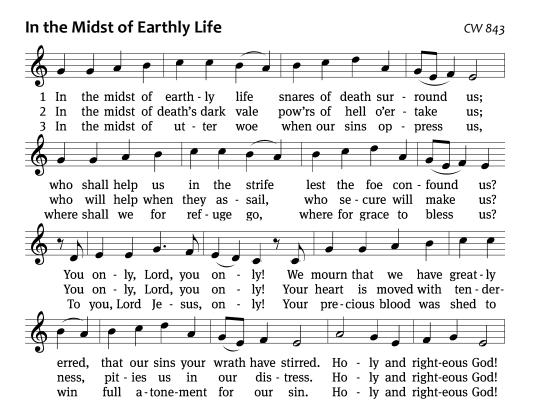
Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. (*Matthew* 16:24-25) Christ has humbled himself and become obedient to death:

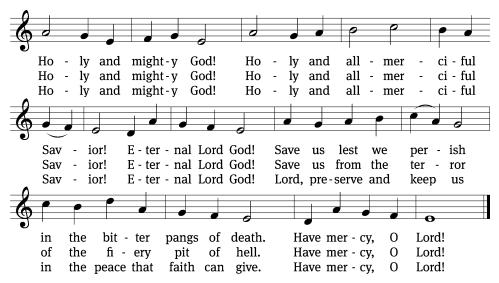
Even to death on a cross.

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

Amen.

Be Seated





Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Tune: Latin, 13th cent., adapt. Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Tune: Public domain

Song:

"Oh, Come My Soul"

(St. Lucas Lutheran School Kindergarten-Third Grade)

Jesus Is Condemned to Death

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

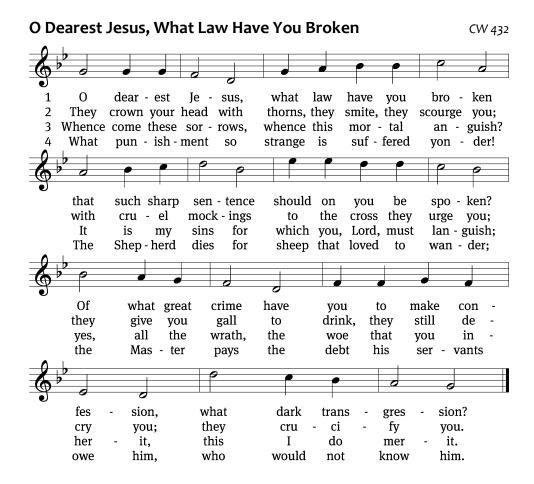
Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. . . "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!" "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!" Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified. (Matthew 27:1-2,22,24,26b)

Silence for Mediation

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many. (Hebrews 9:27, 28)

Almighty God, your Son was rejected and condemned to die by your own people. Grant that we may never reject his word of truth and salvation, but follow him all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



The sinless Son of God must die in sadness, the sinful child of man may live in gladness; we forfeited our lives, yet are acquitted; God is committed.

- 6 I'll think upon your mercy without ceasing, that earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing; to do your will shall be my sole endeavor henceforth forever.
- 7 And when, dear Lord, before your throne in heaven to me the crown of joy at last is given, where sweetest hymns your saints forever raise you, I too shall praise you.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; (sts. 1–4, 6–7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 5): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662Text and tune: Public domain

Jesus Carries His Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they slapped him in the face. . . So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). (John 19:1-3, 16-17)

Silence for Mediation

I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced.

Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

He who vindicates me is near.

Who then will bring charges against me?

Let us face each other!

Who is my accuser?

Let him confront me!

It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me.

Who will condemn me? (Isaiah 50:6-9)

Heavenly Father, your Son laid aside all power in order to take up the cross and show us the depths of your love for us. Increase our willingness to bear our own cross, for love of him and for love of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Song: "It Was Finished at the Cross" (St. Lucas Lutheran School Sixer Singers)

The Cross is Placed on Simon

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

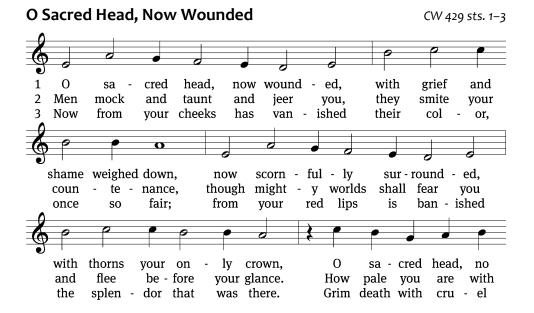
As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. (*Luke* 23:26)

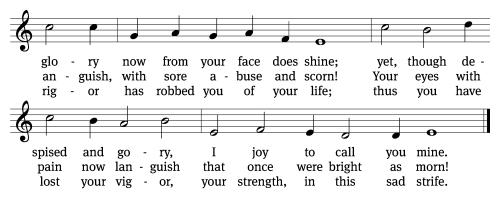
Silence for Mediation

The Lord said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Corinthians.12:8-10)

Lord God, your Son chose to be weak before the powers of this world, and you worked your power through him. In our time of weakness, help us to turn to you that your power may work in us also; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen





Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153, abr. Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1546–1612 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Tune: Public domain

Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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 childless 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 people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?" (*Luke* 23:27-31)

Silence for Mediation

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

(2 Corinthians 5:16-21)

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are but mortal flesh, and the span of our lives is very brief. Help us to see our frailty and affliction as a sharing in Christ's frailty and affliction, and through them, the path to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



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Jesus Is Stripped of His Clothes

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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 that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did. (*John 19:23-24a*)

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:5-7)

Lord God, your Son endured humiliations and indignities beyond compare, yet without complaint. Keep us humble in our work and daily lives with a willingness to put others before ourselves as Jesus put us before himself; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Text: African-American spiritual, 19th cent., abr. Tune: African-American spiritual, 19th cent., alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

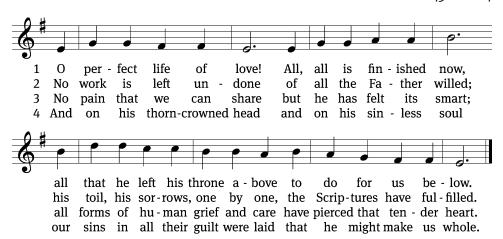
Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." 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." There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the Jews. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? 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, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:32-43)

Silence for meditation

When you were dead in your sins, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. (Colossians 2:13-14)

Heavenly Father, despite his wounds, Jesus showed his love throughout his passion: for his mother, for the women of Jerusalem, for the thief, even for those who nailed him to the cross. Bind us ever to that love, and help us to look beyond ourselves and our sufferings in order to share that love with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**





Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, abr., alt. Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591 Text and tune: Public domain

Remain standing

Jesus Dies on the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

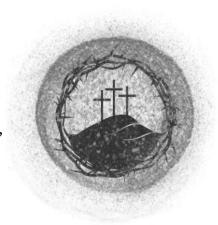
It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23:44-46)

Silence for mediation

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

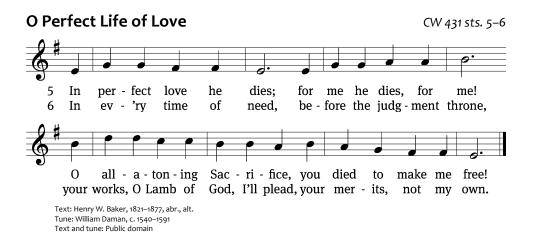
We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:4-6)



Who would have believed it, O God? Who would have thought that the Savior would die? Yet in the world's darkest hour, you snatched him out of the jaws of death, crushing sin and death underfoot. Keep us ever close to his cross and death, now and at the hour of our death; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Be seated



Jesus Is Buried

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five 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, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. (John 19:38-42)

Silence for Meditation

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. After he has suffered. he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. (Isaiah 53:9-12)

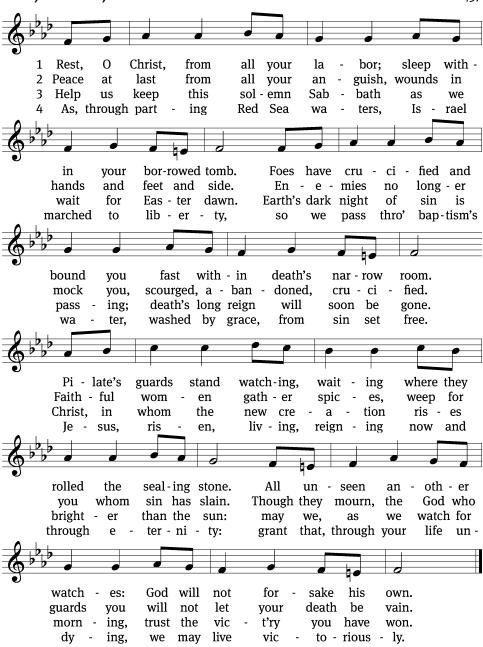
God of hope, you have promised that since we are buried with Christ in the waters of Baptism, we too will rise with him to new life. Make us ever mindful of our baptism and remove all stain of sin from us through repentance, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor

CW 437



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850 Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Tune: Public domain

Closing Prayer

Far be it from me to glory: Except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

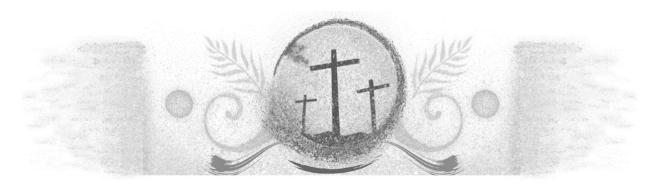
Lord's Prayer

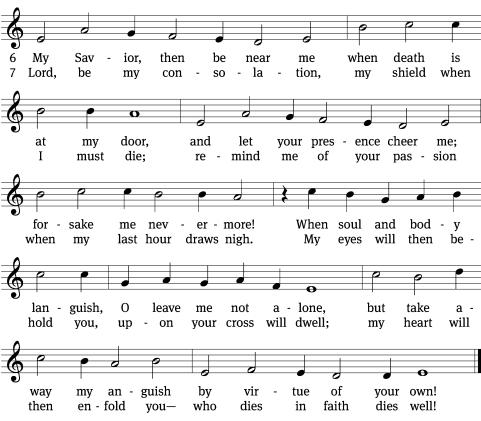
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, and for the gift of our salvation that he won for us through the path to the cross. Make our paths straight and keep our feet upon that way of the cross until you bring us safely into your heavenly kingdom; where you reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Be seated





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The minister exits the chancel.

 $\label{thm:congregation} The \ congregation \ may \ remain \ for \ prayer \ and \ meditation \ before \ dispersing \ quietly.$

Acknowledgments

Adapted from a service by the Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, www.liturgybytlw.com.

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Holy Week Services

Good Friday Tenebrae (Darkness): This Evening at 6:30 pm

Easter - The Resurrection of our Lord: Sunday at 6 am

Easter – Festival Service with Holy Sunday at 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Communion:

EASTER BREAKFAST: Easter breakfast will be between the 6 am service and the 8:30 am service from 7 am-8:15 am on Sunday

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Timothy Henning

Organist: Coralee Henning

Vocalists: Students of St. Lucas Lutheran Elementary School

Usher: Henry Schacht