



GOOD  
FRIDAY

# The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior

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About tonight's service...

## *The Seven Words*

Scripture tells us of seven things Jesus said from the cross. All seven are short. All seven are profound, showing the depth of his love for us. Tonight, our worship revolves around looking at these seven words.

## *Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness*

The word tenebrae (TEN-e-bray) means "darkness." The service we use tonight follows a pattern that has existed in Good Friday worship for centuries.

Throughout the service light will grow dim and candles will be extinguished, representing Christ's life ebbing away.

## *Symbolic Silence*

The mood of the service is most solemn, encouraging the worshipers to reflect deeply upon their own life in the light of the Passion of our Lord. No closing blessing is pronounced and the congregation disperses into the night, leaving the darkened church in silence, yet remembering the Light which lingers and casts hope through the gloom of Good Friday.

In keeping with the solemnity of the day, there will be no pre- or post-service music.

Silence for meditation is appreciated.

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**GREETING**

**HYMN: CW 119**

**Were You There**

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

Lamentations 1:1-5

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

*The congregation sings...*

**C: Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

Lamentations 1:6-9

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**C: Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus!**

M: A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the prophet:

Lamentations 1:10-14

M: Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

**C: Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.  
All sins you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Your peace be with us, O Jesus!**

HYMN: CW 127

Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted

GOSPEL

John 19:1-18

HYMN: CWS 713

In Silent Pain the Eternal Son



1 In si - lent pain th' e - ter - nal Son Hangs  
 2 He died that we might die to sin And  
 3 For strife he came, to bring a sword, The



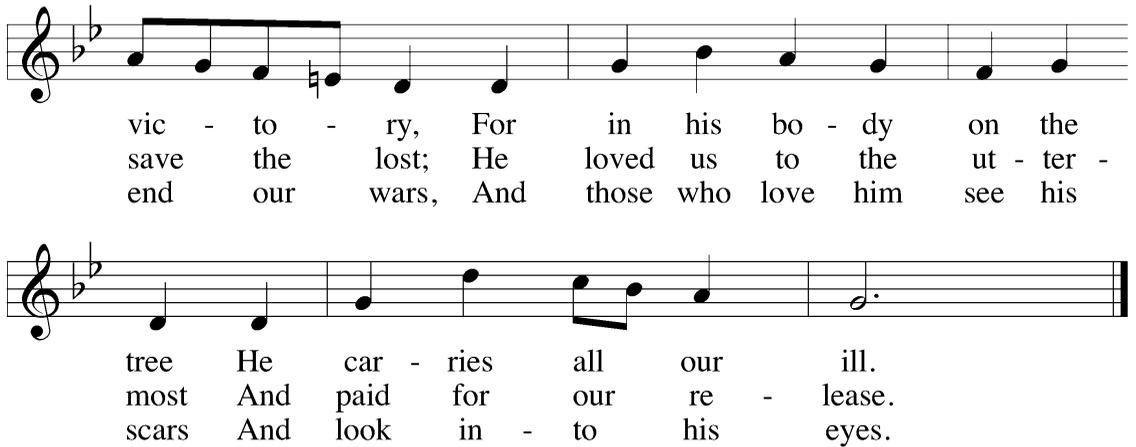
der - e - lict and still; In dark - ened day his  
 live for right - eous - ness; The earth is stained to  
 truth to end all lies; To rule in us, our



work is done, Ful - filled his Fa - ther's will. Up -  
 make us clean And bring us in - to peace. For  
 pa - tient Lord, Un - til all e - vil dies: For



lift - ed for the world to see He hangs in strang - est  
 peace he came and met its cost; He gave him - self to  
 in his hand he holds the stars, His voice shall speak to



vic - to - ry, For in his bo - dy on the  
save the lost; He loved us to the ut - ter -  
end our wars, And those who love him see his  
tree He car - ries all our ill.  
most And paid for our re - lease.  
scars And look in - to his eyes.

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## SERMON

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Heavenly Father, you are a just God who accepts nothing less than perfection. All too often we fail to realize how much our sins offend you. We forget that the wages of sin truly is death. We forget that there actually is a hell. Lead us to recognize the seriousness of our sinfulness. Lead us also to admit our inability to make things right with you.
- C: Teach us to look to you as the only one who can make us just and right.**
- M: Today we are reminded not only of your justice but also of your love. You did not spare your own Son but gave him as a ransom for each one of us. Comfort us with the knowledge of this great love. Give us the peace that the forgiveness of sins brings.

**C: When we feel our guilt, point us to the cross, where our guilt was washed away in Jesus' blood.**

M: Lord Jesus, we thank you for paying the debt that we could not pay. We thank you for coming to earth so that we could be with you forever in heaven.

**C: For being our perfect substitute, we thank you, Lord Jesus.**

M: Son of God, you offered up your body as an unblemished sacrifice for sin and commended your spirit into the hands of your Father. Teach us to cast the cares of this brief life on our heavenly Father and commit our bodies and souls to his love.

**C: Give us the courage to face death, knowing that it is the gate to our home in heaven.**

M: The cross was once an instrument of death. It is now a sign of life.

**C: Dear Savior, we humbly kneel at the cross in awe of your power and of your love. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: O Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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 Seven Words

## The First Word:

Luke 23:26-34

*Silence for meditation*

M: Almighty God, our redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**O sacred head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded, With thorns your only crown,  
O sacred head, no glory Now from your face does shine;  
Yet, though despised on gory, I joy to call you mine.**

*The first candle is extinguished.*

## The Second Word:

Luke 23:35-43

*Silence for meditation*

M: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service and that we may not fail or deny you in the hour of trial. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**Men mock and taunt and jeer you, They smite your countenance,  
Though mighty worlds shall fear you And flee before your glance.  
How pale you are with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn!  
Your eyes with pain now languish That once were bright as morn!**

*The second candle is extinguished.*

## The Third Word:

John 19:25-27

*Silence for meditation*

M: Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ; you have sent your Son to show us your love and the way of life. Make us sincerely thankful for this gift and for your patience with our sins and sorrow. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**Now from your cheeks has vanished Their color, once so fair;  
From your red lips is banished The splendor that was there.  
Grim death with cruel rigor Has robbed you of your life;  
Thus you have lost your vigor, Your strength, in this sad strife.**

*The third candle is extinguished.*

## The Fourth Word:

Matthew 27:45-49

*Silence for meditation*

M: Lord God, our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word and, when we fall, raise us again and restore us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**My burden in your passion, Lord, you have borne for me,  
For it was my transgression, My shame, on Calvary.  
I cast me down before you; Wrath is my rightful lot.  
Have mercy I implore you; Redeemer, spurn me not!**

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

**The Fifth Word:**

**John 19:28-29**

*Silence for meditation*

**M:** Merciful Lord, you sent your Son to be our peace. Help all who suffer pain or grief to find in him strength and peace, so that their trust in your promises may be renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**What language shall I borrow To thank you, dearest Friend,  
For this, your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?  
Oh, make me yours forever, And keep me strong and true;  
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love for you.**

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

**The Sixth Word:**

**John 19:30**

*Silence for meditation*

**M:** O God, your Son chose the path which led to pain before joy and the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we come to the final joy and glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**My Savior, then be near me When death is at my door,  
And let your presence cheer me; Forsake me nevermore!  
When soul and body languish, Oh, leave me not alone,  
But take away my anguish By virtue of your own!**

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

**The Seventh Word:**

**Luke 23:33-46**

*Silence for meditation*

**M:** Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*The congregation sings...*

**Lord, be my consolation, My shield when I must die;  
Remind me of your passion When my last hour draws nigh.  
My eyes will then behold you, Upon your cross will dwell;  
My heart will then enfold you-- Who dies in faith dies well!**

*The seventh candle is removed*

**THE BURIAL OF JESUS:**

**Matthew 27:57-60**

*Silence for meditation*

**M:** Let us pray.

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 now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**C:** Amen.

## CHOIR

## What Wondrous Love Is This

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!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown For my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

## SILENT MEDITATION

*Christ Candle is returned.*

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*There is no blessing, for our worship will continue on Sunday.*

*After the pastor exits the sanctuary, the congregation also leaves in silence. Please do not converse with one another inside the church. There will not be a greeting line at the doorway. You may remain for silent prayer and meditation if you desire.*

***We gather on Sunday at 7 & 10 AM to rejoice in our Savior's resurrection.***

