



Friday, March 29, 2024

Hanover Lutheran Church
2949 Perryville Road, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

573-335-8583

Rev. Rod Benkendorf, Pastor

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29, 2024

“but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us”- Romans 5:8

The Service of Tenebrae

If you visit any Lutheran Church on Good Friday, you are likely to find a very quiet, low-key, serious worship service. Good Friday is the most solemn day of the church year, the day on which Christ was crucified. In many countries, it is a national holiday. On this day, Christians around the world gather for prayer and reflection at the hour Jesus died: 3:00 p.m.

In Lutheran tradition since the time of Martin Luther in the 16th century, Good Friday was considered one of the most important religious holidays, with an abstention from all worldly works was expected. Recently, Lutheran liturgical practice has recaptured Good Friday as part of the larger sweep of the great Three Days: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter. The Three Days remain as one liturgy which celebrates the death and resurrection of Jesus. As part of the liturgy of the Three Days, Lutherans generally fast from the Lord’s Supper on Good Friday.

Here at Hanover we celebrate with a Tenebrae service on Good Friday. Our service is conducted in candlelight and consists of a collection of passion accounts from the four gospels. Tenebrae (Latin for “shadows” or “darkness”) is traditionally a religious service celebrated in the Holy Week within all of Christianity. Tenebrae is distinctive for its gradual extinguishing of candles while a series of readings and psalms are recited.

The rite of Tenebrae was widely observed in the church since the Ordo of St. Amand in 800 A.D. which consisted of a preaching service centered on a dramatic and sentimentalized remembrance of the “Seven Last Words” of Jesus assembled from the four gospels.

Please Join us on Sunday to celebrate the fact that Jesus did not stay dead.

***There will be no general offering collected during worship
If you would like to leave an offering
Please drop your offering in plate located near the exit.***

PROCESSION TO THE CROSS

(The procession is led by the pastor; the white candle is representing Jesus and his life. The procession represents his walk from the Garden of Gethsemane to Golgotha following is a rough wooden cross, carried as a reminder that Simon from Cyrene was enlisted to carry Jesus' cross when he could not do so.)

P Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,

C **who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.** [*Hebrews 12:2*]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, graciously hold your family this night for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

HYMN

“Upon the Cross Extended” LSB 453, verses 1 & 2

FIRST READING

Isaiah 53:1-12

(Some 700 years before Jesus, God inspired Isaiah to describe what Jesus would experience on our behalf.)

P 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 everyone 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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Lord God, you saved the first Israelites through the blood of the Passover lamb.

C **Save us and help us also, we humbly implore you, O Lord.**

P We adore you, Lord Jesus, in your cross and Passion, through which you have brought life and joy into the world through your suffering and death.

C **Be gracious to us according to your mercy and bless us. Shine the light of your face on us and give us your peace.**

P Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God,

All: **At this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live for righteousness. Have mercy on us now and at the hour of our death. Give us a holy and peaceful life in this world and through your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and rule, God forever. Amen**

P Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C **have mercy on us.**

P Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C **grant us peace.**

P Jesus, the Lamb of God, has taken away the sins of the world. By the power of his death, be assured without a doubt that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

+ SERVICE of TENEBRAE +

HYMN

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” LSB 451

READING FROM THE PASSION

Matthew 26:14-16, 30-56

- P** Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver.
- C** **And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.**
- P** And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered him,
- C** **“Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”**
- P** Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him,
- C** **“Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!” And all the disciples said the same.**
- P** Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” And taking with him Peter and two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”
- While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; seize him.” And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”
- At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

THE KYRIE Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ.

C **Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of his truth. We ask you to keep your Church safe throughout the world, defending her against Satan; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

(The first candle is extinguished)

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory and bliss did once combine;
Though now despised and gory, I joy to call you mine!

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 18:12-27

P So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. First, they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people. Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. The servant girl at the door said to Peter, **“You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.”**

P Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself. The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying,

C **“Is that how you answer the high priest?”**

P Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him,

C **“You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.”**

- P** One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,
- C** “Did I not see you in the garden with him?”
- P** Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

THE KYRIE Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives that reflect godliness and honesty:
- C** **O merciful Father in heaven, you hold in your hand all the power of humanity for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well throughout all the world. We humbly pray for your guidance and protection of all who serve in our church, community, county, state, nation, and in each nation in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

(The second candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

All this for my transgression, my wayward soul to win;
 This torment of your Passion, To set me free from sin.
 I cast myself before you, Your wrath my rightful lot;
 Have mercy, I implore you, O Lord, condemn me not!

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 18:28-40

- P** Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered him,
- C** **“If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.”**
- P** Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him,
- C** **“It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.”**
- P** This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king.

For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice, “Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again,

C “Not this man, but Barabbas!”

THE KYRIE Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for all who are not yet believers in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ that God would call them to faith in him and gather them into his family, the Church:

C **Almighty and everlasting God, because you do not want anyone to be lost to you, hear our prayers for all who do not yet believe in you. Open their eyes, hearts, and minds to the wonder of your glory and bring them into the body of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

(The third candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Here will I stand beside you, Your death for me my plea;
Let all the world deride you, I clasp you close to me.
My awe cannot be spoken, To see you crucified;
But in your body broken, Redeemed, I safely hide!

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 19:1-16a

P Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying,

C **“Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck him with their hands.**

P Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.” So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out,

C **“Crucify him, crucify him!”**

P Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.” The Jews answered him,

C **“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.”**

P When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.” From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out,

C **“If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”**

P So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out,

C **“Away with him, away with him, crucify him!”**

P Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered,

C **“We have no king but Caesar.”**

P So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Via Dolorosa”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray to our Lord God Almighty that he would deliver the world from all terror, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those who are oppressed, give health to the sick, and a safe journey to all who travel:

C **Almighty and everlasting God, comfort of the sorrowful and strength of the weak, hear the prayers of those who cry to you in suffering or distress, so that in all their needs they celebrate in your help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

How pale you are with anguish, With sore abuse and scorn!
Your face, your eyes now languish, which once were bright as morn.
Now from your cheeks has vanished Their color once so fair;
From loving lips is banished the splendor that was there.

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 19:16b-24

P So they took Jesus, and went he 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,

- C** “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’”
- P** 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,
- C** “Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.”
- P** This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,
- C** “They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”
- P** So the soldiers did these things.

THE KYRIE Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously give them the things which are necessary and beneficial for their salvation:
- C** **O almighty, everlasting God, through your only Son, our blessed Lord, you have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We ask you, by your gracious mercy, to lead all our enemies to true repentance so they may experience the same love and be of one mind and heart with us and with your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

“Were You There” LSB 456 (v. 1)

(Three nails are driven into the cross as a reminder that it was by our own hand and for our own sake that the Christ was crucified.)

MEDITATION

“Ultimate Disownment”

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 19:25-30

- P** 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, 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.

HYMN

“Were You There” LSB 456 (v. 2)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for peace, that we may experience the peace that is beyond our understanding as God comes to us through his Word and Sacraments, leading us by the Holy Spirit in our daily walk:
- C** **Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose divine intervention all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all harmony, give us your heavenly peace and unity that we may serve you in true awe and reverence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

[lights are dimmed to signify the death of Christ]

HYMN

“Were You There” LSB 456 (v. 3)

READING FROM THE PASSION

John 19:31-37

- P** Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away.
- So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—you also may believe. For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled:
- C** **“Not one of his bones will be broken.”**
- P** And again another Scripture says,
- C** **“They will look on him whom they have pierced.”**

(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Requiem”

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IS REMOVED STILL LIT

(The removal of the paschal candle signifies Jesus’ body being carried to the tomb. The doors are closed to symbolize the guards rolling the stone to cover the entrance. The world waits...

The return of the paschal candle on Easter is a reminder that in the midst of death and darkness our Lord was not defeated by the devil but rose in triumph on that Easter morning.)

THE STREPITUS

(Strepitus means “din” or “loud noise”: This strepitus echoes several scriptural “loud sounds”: the final cries of Jesus, the earthquake at his death [Matthew 27:46-53], the shutting of Jesus’ tomb and the second earthquake at his rising [Matthew 28:2])

***There will be no general offering collected during worship
If you would like to leave an offering
Please drop your offering in plate located near the exit.***

PARTING

(You are asked to leave in silence anticipating the joys of Easter while contemplating the solemnity of Good Friday. You may remain in the Sanctuary for meditation or prayer as long as you like. The omission of the benediction today indicates that our worship is not complete until we are joined together with the celebration of Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord.)

Serving in Worship

Meditation.....Pastor Rod Benkendorf
Assistant.....Vicar Daniel Heitshusen
Organist.....Mr. Keith Koenig

Easter Sunday, March 31

6:30 am—Sunrise Communion
8:00 am—Breakfast in Activity Center
9:00 am—Resurrection Story, Easter Activities and Egg Hunt
10:15 am—Communion Service