



# OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



# Good Friday

## Welcome to Our Good Friday Service

We welcome you to the house of our true and living God for worship on this Good Friday of Holy Week. Today's hymns, readings and prayers emphasize both God's justice and his grace: at the same time God punishes sin and yet forgives the sinner by the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus Christ.

If you are visiting today, we extend a special word of welcome. We ask both members and visitors to please sign the Friendship Register.

## Prayer Before Worship

Heavenly Father, 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 today and give us the peace that the forgiveness of sins brings. When we feel our guilt, point us to the cross where it was washed away in Jesus' blood. Amen.

## Silent Dismissal

After the service is over, the worship assembly will exit the sanctuary in silence. You may remain for a few moments for prayer and meditation. Leave on your own without the assistance of an usher. Depart in peace while reflecting on the sacrifice Jesus made to make this Friday "good".

## Easter Worship & Fellowship

All are invited to join us this Sunday at 11:00 am as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead as the assurance of forgiveness for our sins and the victory over death and hell.

All are welcome to join us **before** our worship service at 10:35 for coffee and donuts fellowship.

## Serving In Worship

- Minister ~ Pastor Jeffrey Mahnke
- Organist ~ Marie Kurth
- Ushers ~ Tim & Ellen Heil



# Good Friday

April 18, 2025 | 1:00 pm

A bell may be tolled seven times to begin the service.

## Opening Hymn

CW 568 st. 1



1 His robes for mine: O won - der - ful ex - change!



Clothed in my sin, Christ suf - fered 'neath God's rage.



Draped in his right - eous - ness, I'm jus - ti - fied.



In Christ I live, for in my place he died.



I cling to Christ, and mar - vel at the cost:



Je - sus for - sak - en, God es - tranged from God.



Bought by such love, my life is not my own.



My praise— my all— shall be for Christ a - lone.

Stand

## Invocation

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

## Confession

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

## Absolution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+)  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

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, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## 422 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

CW 422

- 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,  
our guilt and evil bearing  
and, laden with the sins of earth,  
none else the burden sharing,  
goes patient on, grows 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 said,  
"and free my children from their dread  
of guilt and condemnation.  
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,  
but by your passion they will share  
the fruit of your salvation."
  
- 3 "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly  
I'll bear what you command me.  
My will conforms to your decree;  
I'll do what you have asked me."  
O wondrous Love, what have you done!  
The Father offers up his Son,  
desiring our salvation.  
O Love, how strong you are to save!  
You make his bed within the grave  
who built the earth's foundation.

4 From morn till eve, in all I do,  
I'll praise you, Christ, my treasure.  
To sacrifice myself for you  
shall be my aim and pleasure.  
My stream of life shall ever be  
a current flowing ceaselessly,  
your constant praise outpouring.  
I'll treasure in my memory,  
O Lord, all you have done for me,  
your gracious love adoring.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
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## First Word

*Luke 23:32–34*

<sup>32</sup>Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Gracious Savior, you did not strike back with revenge against your enemies as they ridiculed and crucified you but prayed for their forgiveness.

**In your compassion, pardon us for our secret sins and sins we do not discern, and enlighten us to know and do your will. Amen.**

# The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 1

1 Their nails were freshly driven,  
their hatred clearly shown,  
when, “Let them be forgiven,”  
was heard at heaven’s throne.  
Your enemies, O Jesus,  
you loved beyond degree,  
a love so pure and precious  
it even pardoned me.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

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## Second Word

Luke 23:35–43

<sup>35</sup>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.”

<sup>36</sup>The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar <sup>37</sup>and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

<sup>38</sup>There was a written notice above him, which read: This is the King of the Jews.

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

<sup>40</sup>But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup>We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

<sup>42</sup>Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

<sup>43</sup>Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Mighty Redeemer, remember us as we walk through the darkest valleys of life and realize that our time on earth is ending.

**Stay close to us when we feel the pain and loneliness of dying and take away our fears with your certain promise of paradise.**

**Amen.**

### The Seven Words

*CW 436 st. 2*

- 2 On you, my King, depending,  
I'm rid of all my sins!  
My final day here ending,  
my first in heav'n begins.  
As you have truly spoken,  
in paradise I'll be,  
with you in bliss unbroken—  
you will remember me.

### Third Word

*John 19:25–27*

<sup>25</sup>Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," <sup>27</sup>and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

## Devotional Response



## Responsive Prayer

Precious Jesus, you consider us friends and care about the needs of our bodies and souls.

**Keep us in your care as we walk the road of life and provide the blessings we need to gain safety, contentment, and joy in your service. Amen.**

## The Seven Words

*CW 436 st. 3*

3 A Savior like no other,  
all self-concern denied,  
you served your grieving mother  
while you were crucified.  
My sin had made me filthy,  
but you, the perfect child,  
were designated guilty,  
and I am reconciled.

## Fourth Word

*Matthew 27:45, 46*

<sup>45</sup>From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

<sup>46</sup>About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Lord Jesus, you endured the horrific penalty of our sins as your Father turned his face from you on the cross. Compel us to see in your sacrifice the dreadful nature of sin and call us to acknowledge the amazing depth of your love.

**Overcome our shame, dear Savior, and give us grateful faith. Amen.**

## The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 4

- 4    Condemned, cut off, forsaken,  
        outside the Father's care,  
        by terror overtaken,  
        no ear would hear your prayer.  
On you God's wrath was vented,  
        on you his fury fell,  
when, on the cross tormented,  
        you took my place in hell.

## Fifth Word

*John 19:28, 29*

<sup>28</sup>After this, when he knew that all things necessary for the Scripture to be fulfilled had now been accomplished, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup>A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Dear Jesus, as our brother on earth you endured the agony of pain that besieged your body when your sacrifice was complete. Knowing our experiences, hover over us with your care and compassion when our bodies and hearts are hurting.

**Provide us with strength that we may confess you with confidence and power. Amen.**

## The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 5

5 My Lord, in death's dark valley,  
both soul and body drained,  
one drink would help you rally  
what little strength remained  
to raise your voice in vict'ry,  
to sound your foe's defeat—  
the highest point in hist'ry—  
my rescue was complete.

## Sixth Word

*John 19:30*

<sup>30</sup>When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Gracious Redeemer, you paid the full price for our redemption and have released us forever from the hold of Satan, the power of sin, and the fear of death. Protect us from the devil's claim that we need to do more and from the accusation of our consciences that we have not done enough.

**Lead us to place our entire confidence in you and to live our lives secure in your grace. Amen.**

## The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 6

6 Though sin's most lethal wages  
to me, O Christ, were due,  
the guilt of all the ages  
came crashing down on you.  
Most surely, "It is finished"—  
my debt is fully paid;  
my joy is undiminished;  
my heart is unafraid.

## Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-46

<sup>44</sup>It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup>for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup>Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.

## Devotional Response

### Responsive Prayer

Loving Savior, at the moment of your death you gave yourself into the loving hands of your Father. As we close our eyes in death, lead us to commit our bodies and souls to him who has summoned us by name and made us his own because of you and your love.

**Then, we pray, let us depart in peace. Amen.**

## The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 7

7 My death will be triumphant  
no matter how I die;  
Lord Jesus, in that instant  
escort my soul on high  
into my Father’s keeping,  
all-blameless and all-blest,  
like waking up from sleeping,  
his hands my place of rest.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

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*Stand*

## 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.

## Dismissal statement

Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor

CW 437

1 Rest, O Christ, from all your labor;  
sleep within your borrowed tomb.  
Foes have crucified and bound you  
fast within death's narrow room.  
Pilate's guards stand watching, waiting  
where they rolled the sealing stone.  
All unseen another watches:  
God will not forsake his own.

- 2 Peace at last from all your anguish,  
wounds in hands and feet and side.  
Enemies no longer mock you,  
scourged, abandoned, crucified.  
Faithful women gather spices,  
weep for you whom sin has slain.  
Though they mourn, the God who guards you  
will not let your death be vain.
- 3 Help us keep this solemn Sabbath  
as we wait for Easter dawn.  
Earth's dark night of sin is passing;  
death's long reign will soon be gone.  
Christ, in whom the new creation  
rises brighter than the sun:  
may we, as we watch for morning,  
trust the vict'ry you have won.
- 4 As, through parting Red Sea waters,  
Israel marched to liberty,  
so we pass through baptism's water,  
washed by grace, from sin set free.  
Jesus, risen, living, reigning  
now and through eternity:  
grant that, through your life undying,  
we may live victoriously.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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*The minister exits in silence.*

*Worshippers may remain for prayer and meditation before departing in silence. There will be no ushering out or pastoral greeting.*

*Sign the Friendship Register during the service.*

*Place your Good Friday offerings into the offering plate in the church's entry as you leave.*

*Please exit church quietly.*

## **Acknowledgments**

A Service of the Seven Words from the Cross from Christian Worship

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# OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love*

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