



A note about our service. Due to the solemn atmosphere and the use of black paraments, people sometimes confuse Good Friday services with a funeral. We are not here to mourn the death of Christ. After all, His death is what makes Good Friday “good”. However, we are here to mourn over the sin...our sin...for which He died; and we are here to pay solemn tribute to Him as we remember His supreme sacrifice on our behalf. May God bless our worship together.

PRELUDE

TOLLING OF THE BELLS: *(To commemorate the age at which our Lord died the bells ring 33 times)*

HYMN: “O PERFECT LIFE OF LOVE” *LSB # 452*

(INSERT)

THE INVOCATION

THE LITANY – (A Responsive Reading of Isaiah 53:3-9)

P: He was despised and rejected by men;

C: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;

P: and as one from whom men hide their faces,

C: he was despised and we esteemed him not.

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: Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole,

C: and with his stripes we are healed.

P: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;

C: and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

P: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,

C: yet he opened not his mouth.

P: By oppression and judgment he was taken away;

C: 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?

P: And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death,

C: although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION:

P: Let us now confess our sins to God our Father:

C: Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know – the thoughts, words, and deeds of which I am ashamed – but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(Throughout the Service, as each Passion Narrative concludes, the candles on the Altar are progressively extinguished, symbolizing the fading life of our Savior.)

PASSION NARRATIVE NO. I

JOHN 19:1-9

HYMN: **“JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW”**

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PASSION NARRATIVE NO. II

JOHN 19:10-15

HYMN: **“STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED”**

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PASSION NARRATIVE NO. III

JOHN 19:16-22

HYMN: **“O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED”**

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THE GATHERING OF OUR TITHES AND SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS

(On this occasion, as we focus on Christ’s offering of Himself, our “offerings” are gathered to the rear of the Sanctuary)

THE CHORAL OFFERING: **“GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD”**

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.

PASSION NARRATIVE NO. IV

JOHN 19:13-30

(As this final reading ends, the Chancel Bible is closed loudly, the sound reminding us of the finality...and the totality...of our Lord’s sacrifice.)

(The Christ candle is extinguished)

GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION – “Looking and Leaping”

JOHN 20:30-31

HYMN: **“WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”**

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CLOSING PRAYER

C: Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, You bore our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, Your servants, with all others who devoutly remember Your blessed passion, 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 reign, God forever. Amen.

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BENEDICTION

HYMN: “*SING, MY TONGUE*”

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(During the singing of our last hymn the Christ candle is re-lit, reminding us of the words of Acts 2:24: “...it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.”)

(NOTE: In keeping with the somber mood of the events we commemorate today, and as an aid to your continued meditation, worshipers are asked to **exit in silence and prayer**. We look forward to a joyous reunion with all of you at our Easter Services on Sunday Morning. Until then, may God bless you.)

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Our Holy Week devotion concludes APRIL 8, 2007 with Easter Sunday services at 8:00 and 10:30 A. M. Easter Coffee Hour hosted by the Ladies Guild (Coffee cake, bagels, orange juice and coffee) will be served in the Narthex.

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY:

PASTOR: Rev. Kenneth M. Ferrier

WINTER ASSISTANT PASTOR: Rev. Earl Schmidt

ORGANIST: Nancy Gunterman or Lanette Schmidt

PIANIST: Nancy Gunterman

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Collins Sita or Marj Sterriker

Tolling of the Bells: Ed Sita