

# Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 Good Friday

## WE GATHER IN SILENCE

### Welcome & Announcements

#### \*Invocation

#### \*Hymn

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

ELW 345

1. Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion; let your Spirit now endow me for meditation. Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish of your suff'ring, pain and death, that I may not perish.
2. Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction, bonds and blows and wretchedness and your crucifixion; make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did would you, how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
3. Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion, but its cause to me make known and its termination. For I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction; this the shameful cause has been of your crucifixion.
4. Let me view your pain and loss with repentant grieving, nor prepare again your cross by unholy living. May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior, that I may in heav'n above sing your praise forever.

#### \*Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray together, C: Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Passion of Jesus Christ, According to Matthew

Matthew 26:30-46 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup> 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.” <sup>32</sup> “But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.” <sup>33</sup> Peter said to him, “Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” <sup>35</sup> Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup> 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.” <sup>37</sup> He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.” <sup>39</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want.” <sup>40</sup> Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” <sup>42</sup> Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” <sup>43</sup> Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup> Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand.”

#### Hymn

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

ELW 347 (v. 1-2)

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r; your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned; oh, the wormwood and the gal! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Matthew 26:47-57 While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” <sup>49</sup> At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. <sup>51</sup> Suddenly one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place, for all who take the sword will die by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then would

the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"<sup>55</sup> At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me."<sup>56</sup> But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

#### Hymn

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

ELW 347 (v. 3-4)

3. Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

4. Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay; all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Matthew 26:57-75 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered.<sup>58</sup> But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end.<sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death,<sup>60</sup> but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward<sup>61</sup> and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'"<sup>62</sup> The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"<sup>63</sup> But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."<sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, "From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."<sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy."<sup>66</sup> What do you think?" They answered, "He deserves death."<sup>67</sup> Then they spat in his face and struck him, and some slapped him,<sup>68</sup> saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A female servant came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."<sup>70</sup> But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about."<sup>71</sup> When he went out to the porch, another female servant saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene."<sup>72</sup> Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."<sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."<sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed.<sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

#### Reflection

Pastor Brad

#### Hymn

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW 349 (v. 1-3)

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.
2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.
3. Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered; the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered; for our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded.

Matthew 27:1-14 When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death.<sup>2</sup> They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.<sup>3</sup> When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders.<sup>4</sup> He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself."<sup>5</sup> Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.<sup>6</sup> But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."<sup>7</sup> After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners.<sup>8</sup> For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.<sup>9</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price,<sup>10</sup> and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."<sup>1</sup> Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so."<sup>12</sup> But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.<sup>13</sup> Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"<sup>14</sup> But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Hymn:

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Offering

Matthew 27:15-26 Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup> At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup> So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” <sup>18</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. <sup>19</sup> While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” <sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. <sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” <sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>23</sup> Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” <sup>24</sup> So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” <sup>25</sup> Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” <sup>26</sup> So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

Reflection

Pastor Brad

Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

ELW 351 (v. 1-2)

1. O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown; O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.
2. How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn; how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn! Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners’ gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

Matthew 27:27-31

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. <sup>28</sup> They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” <sup>30</sup> They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup> After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Hymn

“Were You There?”

ELW 353 (v. 1-2)

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Matthew 27:32-44 As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup> And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup> they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. <sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; <sup>36</sup> then they sat down there and kept watch over him. <sup>37</sup> Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his

left.<sup>39</sup> Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads<sup>40</sup> and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."<sup>41</sup> In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,<sup>42</sup> "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him."<sup>43</sup> He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to, for he said, 'I am God's Son.'<sup>44</sup> The rebels who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

Hymn "Were You There?" ELW 353 (v. 3)  
3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Matthew 27:45-56

<sup>45</sup> From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.<sup>46</sup> And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"<sup>47</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah."<sup>48</sup> At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink.<sup>49</sup> But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."<sup>50</sup> Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.<sup>51</sup> At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split.<sup>52</sup> The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised.<sup>53</sup> After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.<sup>54</sup> Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"<sup>55</sup> Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him.<sup>56</sup> Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

Hymn "Were You There?" ELW 353 (v. 4)  
4. Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Were you there when the sun refused to shine? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Matthew 27:57-61

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who also was himself a disciple of Jesus.<sup>58</sup> He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.<sup>59</sup> So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth<sup>60</sup> and laid it in his new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.<sup>61</sup> Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Hymn "Were You There?" ELW 353 (v. 5)  
5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

\*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.

Hymn "What Wondrous Love is This?" ELW 666  
1. 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?  
2. 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.  
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.  
4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing one; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

Closing of the Tomb & Removal of Candle

All depart in Silence

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Sunday Worship Services: 6:30 am Sunrise & 9:00 am Celebration. Both services will have Holy Communion and special music.

Easter Breakfast, 7:30 am. Served by our Confirmation Youth. Biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, and beverage. Free-will offering taken.

Have you made your Foundation gift? Help start our Parsonage project with a strong foundation with an initial gift. You should have received a letter in the mail by now, if not, call the office. You can give through a check, online, or using Venmo. Put "Foundation" or "Parsonage" on your gift.

Raise the Roof Fundraiser Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 11 am till 4pm, Boyceville Fire Hall. This fundraiser for our new parsonage will feature a silent auction, raffles, games, "flip-flop" chicken, and more. If you would like to donate items, you can drop them off at the church. Also, see sign up sheet in the Narthex to help out. Contact the church office for more information.

Serving Our Lord and Church

Pastor: Bradley K. Peterson  
Parish Manager: Andrea McVeigh  
Organists: Ginny Waller, Lee Peshaw

Ministers: All Baptized Believers  
Altar Guild: Amy Hellmann, Katie Moll, Mary Larson  
Ushers: Joe Larson, Kevin Bird, Rick Stalker, Troy Kostman

Our Prayer Concerns

Dick Clack  
Leona Steies  
Jennifer Marlett  
Ranee Mayer  
Tom Lohfink  
Kathy Joles

Saul Hedlund  
Kayden Ebensperger  
Brad Stevens  
Lynda Swenson  
Lynda Bird  
Dave Miller

Jeanna Hollister  
Shannon Bauer  
Shirley Mittlestadt  
Kasen Iverson  
Ashley Behling

Helen Rosen  
Amy Frieburg  
Ken Larson  
Megan Vullings  
Brian Moll



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