

Good Friday
March 29, 2024
Virtual Bulletin
Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church
Rev. Garry Mohr, Interim Pastor
Douglas Shabe, Director of Music
Hannah Lee, Organist
Kate Radford, Soprano
Doug Shabe and Steve Rose, Lectors

Order of the Liturgy

THE TENEBRAE SERVICE

In the fourth century, a solemn observance of the Lord's Supper, known as "Tenebrae", was celebrated. The service involved the lighting and extinguishing of candles as a reminder of the darkness that covered the earth after the passion and crucifixion of Jesus.

This service is a version of the ancient office of Tenebrae (darkness). Tenebrae is observed in Lent, and particularly on Good Friday, to impress upon the minds and hearts of believers the tragic consequences of their sins, and the greatness of the Savior's sacrifice on Calvary.

Traditionally, the ceremony of Tenebrae embodies the extinguishing in succession of the candles, thus casting the entire sanctuary into total darkness. The bare altar-veiled cross emphasizes the stark somberness of this holy day.

The service begins with sounding of the toll bell, symbolizing the solemnity of death. Immediately thereafter the procession enters, led by the crucifer carrying the processional cross, and followed by the acolytes, and pastor. A procession without music is meant to add to the intensity of the service. Only the large "Christus" candle is lighted, reminding us of the constant and abiding presence of Jesus at all times.

Following the processional, the congregation sings the mournful "Agnus Dei," the hymn Lamb of God.

No sermon is given. Instead, the various readings highlight the vital facts of Good Friday. We all should listen attentively and devotionally.

The church is darkened gradually. After each major section, another candle is extinguished, symbolic of the gradual flight and denial of the disciples and friends of Jesus away from the



crucifixion. As we see the pageant unfolding, we are graphically reminded of our own desertion of Jesus and the consequences of separation.

The extinguishing of the Christ candle is completed immediately after the reading signifies the death of Jesus Christ.

The harsh sound of crashing books (called “Strepitus” in Latin) is symbolic of the earthquake at the death of Jesus, and the emptiness and confusion, which exists in a life without Christ. It also warns us of the imminent termination of our own life.

PRELUDE

“Lamb of God”

Twila Paris

Special Music – Choir

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

- harmonized by J.S. Bach

BELLS AND SILENT PROCESSION

INTRODUCTION

PRAYER

When the days drew near for Him to be taken up, Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem to die for us.

Today we face death, the death of our Savior on the cross of Calvary, and we face the fact that we, too, will die one day.

Jesus warned that this day of His death was coming when He said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

We see His face in anguish as He suffers pain and takes His last breath on this earth.

We remember this day the words of Holy Scripture, which tell us, “He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.”

We grieve for Him and we grieve for the sins we committed that put Him there.

The reason why we call this day “GOOD FRIDAY” is because of this Good News: The Lord has laid on Christ the iniquity of us all, and by His wounds we are healed. Your Sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Special Music – Choir

“Go To Dark Gethsemane”

GETHSEMANE

Special Music – Choir

“In the Hour of Trial”

JESUS ON TRIAL

Special Music – Choir “Ah, Holy Jesus”

THE TENEBRAE PROPER - JESUS ON THE CROSS

THE FIRST WORD

“Father forgive them, for they know not what they do” Luke 23:34a

Silent Prayer

THE SECOND WORD

“Today you shall be with Me in Paradise” Luke 23:43

Prayer

THE THIRD WORD

“Woman, Mother, behold thy Son” (to John) “Behold thy mother!” John 19:26b, 27a

THE FOURTH WORD

“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Mark 15:34

THE FIFTH WORD

“I thirst” John 19:28b

Prayer

THE SIXTH WORD

“It is finished!” John 19:30

THE SEVENTH WORD

“Father, into Thy hands I commit My Spirit” Psalm 31:5

THE STREPITUS

There is no benediction.
ALL DEPART IN SILENCE.

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Calendar This Week		
Today	7:00 PM	Good Friday Virtual & In-Person Worship Service
Sat 3/30/24	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sat 3/30/24	7:00 PM	Easter Vigil at Trinity Lutheran in Pasadena
Sun 3/31/24	10:00 AM	Easter Sunday Virtual & In-Person Worship Service with a Celebration after service

THE NAIL

Spiked nails locked Jesus to the cross.
They were instruments of torture and of death.
The nails are painful reminders to us of the price



Jesus paid for our forgiveness,
the price He paid to free us from our guilt,
the price He paid to redeem us from damnation.
Nails can help us remember at what cost we are saved.

Nails are used to repair what is damaged –
to restore what is broken and to join together that which has come apart.
Nails are used to build new, to raise up beauty where nothing had been.
Nails remind us that Christ does all these things for us, too.

He repairs our damaged lives. He restores what is broken in us.
He joins us together with God when we part ourselves from Him.

Let His nail remind you of what Jesus Christ can be, and wants to be,
for you!

<p>Good Friday The Cross and the Heart of God</p>

“But He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5

The cross is at the center. As I look at the large crucifix, I remember how it came to us. Four years ago a Franciscan priest, Father Pancratius, whom I met in Freiburg while he was dying of cancer, said to me, “Henri, I want to give you this crucifix before I die. I want you to give it a place among your people with disabilities.”

He told me the story of the crucifix. When many years ago he went to Croatia with a group of young Germans to help restore a church that was destroyed during World War II, they found the crucifix under the rubble. The pastor, grateful for the German gesture of reconciliation, gave it to Father Pancratius. There were no crossbeams, just the wood-carved body...

Good Friday is much more than reliving the passion of Jesus; it is entering into solidarity with the passion of all people of our planet, whether in the past, the present, or the future. In Jesus, all human suffering is collected. The broken heart of Jesus is the broken heart of God.

The broken heart of God is the broken heart of the world.

Lord Jesus, on this day of sorrow, I will unite my sufferings with Yours. I will set aside ten minutes to reflect on the meaning of Your death for me...and give thanks for the freeing power that has come into my life because of Your sacrifice.

---- Henri J.M. Nouwen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Foothill Conference and Friends invite you to join the **2024 Easter Vigil on March 30th at 7 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pasadena**. Participating churches: Trinity Pasadena, Christ the Shepherd Altadena, along with clergy from CTS and ASC, with Bishop Bos presiding. Join us for this solemn and joyous celebration!

Easter Sunday Celebration – We would like the congregation to participate in the coming Easter celebration. These are a few ways you could help. First, we want everyone who will attend to indicate by signing up so we can have a head count. Secondly, we would appreciate it if a person (s) would make cinnamon rolls, or Danishes, or coffee cake for the day. Thirdly, we would like for everyone to please sign a card for our home-bound members to show them how much we love them. Finally, we encourage everyone to bring our young ones to have fun with the easter egg hunt.



The Hill Avenue Grace Food Shelf needs volunteers! We're looking for new, friendly faces to help distribute food on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:30 AM. You can help out as often or as little as you want. If you're open to hearing more, please email foodshelf@hillavenuegrace.org.

With sadness we share that our member, **Karen Smallfoot**, passed away unexpectedly, possibly from a heart attack, on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, in her home. She is now with her Lord. Please pray for God's blessings and Grace for Karen.

Join us 7 PM for our Good Friday Virtual Worship via Zoom!

You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpxcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,95007590439#,,,,*4584517# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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The service will still be available on Zoom and Facebook Live for those who prefer to remain at home. If you have questions, please let our church office know. We look forward to actually seeing you at church this Sunday!