



**A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH
TO DESTROY THE POWER OF DEATH**

Good Friday

BETHEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | York, NE

April 15, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship the Lord with us today. Large print hymnals and hearing assist devices are available upon request. Restrooms are located on the north side of the main level and in the lower level. If you have any questions or need assistance with anything, please ask one of our ushers.

VISITORS please fill out the card you received as you entered church and return it either in the offering plate or by giving it to an usher or the Pastor.

Communion

We are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. Scripture tells us that we need to examine ourselves before we receive the Lord's Supper so that we do not take it in a harmful manner. (1 Cor. 11:27-29) For help in preparation see pages 293-295 in the front of the hymnal.

Visitors: Because we do not want you to receive the Lord's Supper in a harmful manner we ask that you do not come forward for the Lord's Supper today if you are not members of a WELS or ELS church. The pastor will be happy to share with you the Biblical basis for this practice.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Pastor Mark A. Haefner

Assistants

MLC Students Mr. Andrew Ronholt and Mr. Noah Worster

Organist/Pianist

Mr. Steven Springborn

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

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

Stand

Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

¹³Look, my servant will succeed.

He will rise. He will be lifted up. He will be highly exalted.

¹⁴Just as many were appalled at him—

his appearance was so disfigured that he did not look like a man,
and his form was disfigured more than any other person—

¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations,

and kings will shut their mouths because of him,
because they will see something they had never been told before,
and they will understand something they had never heard before.

53 Who has believed our report,

and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot
and like a root from dry ground.

He had no attractiveness and no majesty.

When we saw him, nothing about his appearance made us desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by men,

a man who knew grief,

who was well acquainted with suffering.

Like someone whom people cannot bear to look at,

he was despised,

and we thought nothing of him.

⁴Surely he was taking up our weaknesses,

and he was carrying our sufferings.

We thought it was because of God

that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted,

⁵but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced.

He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved.

The punishment that brought us peace was upon him,

and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶We all have gone astray like sheep.
Each of us has turned to his own way,
but the LORD has charged all our guilt to him.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth.
Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that is silent in front of its shearers,
he did not open his mouth.

⁸He was taken away without a fair trial and without justice,
and of his generation, who even cared?

So, he was cut off from the land of the living.
He was struck because of the rebellion of my people.

⁹They would have assigned him a grave with the wicked,
but he was given a grave with the rich in his death,
because he had done no violence,
and no deceit was in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him
and to allow him to suffer.

Because you made his life a guilt offering, he will see offspring.
He will prolong his days,
and the LORD's gracious plan will succeed in his hand.

¹¹After his soul experiences anguish, he will see the light of life.
He will provide satisfaction.

Through their knowledge of him, my just servant will justify the many,
for he himself carried their guilt.

¹²Therefore I will give him an allotment among the great,
and with the strong he will share plunder,
because he poured out his life to death,
and he let himself be counted with rebellious sinners.
He himself carried the sin of many,
and he intercedes for the rebels.

Be seated

Hymn: 423 The Power of the Cross



1 Oh, to see the dawn of the dark - est day: Christ on the
 2 Oh, to see the pain writ - ten on your face, bear - ing the
 3 Now the day - light flees; now the ground be - neath quakes as its



road to Cal - va - ry. Tried by sin - ful men,
 awe - some weight of sin. Ev - 'ry bit - ter thought,
 mak - er bows his head. Cur - tain torn in two,



torn and beat - en, then nailed to a cross of wood.
 ev - 'ry e - vil deed crown - ing your blood - stained brow.
 dead are raised to life; "Fin-ish!" the vic - t'ry cry.



Refrain

1-3 This the pow'r of the cross: Christ be-



came sin for us. Took the blame,



bore the wrath; we stand for - giv - en at the cross.

4 Oh, to see my name
 written in the wounds,
 for through your suff'ring I am free.

Death is crushed to death;
life is mine to live,
won through your selfless love!
(Final Refrain)

Final Refrain

This the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God—slain for us.
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

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Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *CW 167*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -
 san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,
 bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Distribution

Hymn: 434 Upon the Cross Extended

- 1 Upon the cross extended,
see, world, your Lord suspended;
your Savior yields his breath.
The Prince of life from heaven
himself has freely given
to shame and blows and bitter death.
- 2 Who is it, Lord, that bruised you?
Who has so sore abused you
and caused you all your woe?
We all must make confession
of sin and dire transgression,
while you no ways of evil know.
- 3 I caused your grief and sighing
by evils multiplying
as countless as the sands.
I caused the woes unnumbered
with which your soul is cumbered,
your sorrows raised by wicked hands.
- 4 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
your head with thorns surrounded,
you died to ransom me.
The cross for me enduring,
the crown for me securing,
you healed my wounds and set me free.
- 5 Your cross I place before me,
its saving pow'r restore me,
sustain me in the test.
It will, when life is ending,
be guiding and attending
my way to your eternal rest.

Prayer

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

Hymn: A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

st. 9

9 Of death I am no more afraid,
New life from you is flowing;
Your cross affords me cooling shade
When day's hot sun is glowing.
When by my grief I am oppressed,
On you my weary soul shall rest
And o'er grief's ills so conquer.
And when beneath life's stormy woe
My ship is driven to and fro
So then are you my Anchor.

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Meditation

Reading

Hebrews 2:14–15

¹⁴Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil) ¹⁵and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death.

Offering

Choir - "How Beautiful"

First Word

Luke 23:32–34

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

Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me;

They pierce my hands and my feet.

They divide my garments among them

and cast lots for my clothing.

He bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

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.

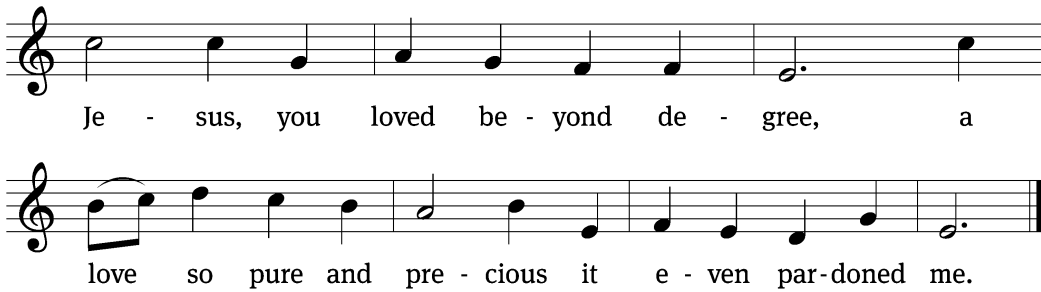
Amen.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

st. 1



1 Their nails were fresh - ly driv - en, their ha - tred
clear - ly shown, when, “Let them be for - giv - en,” was
heard at heav - en’s throne. Your en - e - mies, O



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Second Word

Luke 23:35–43

³⁵The 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.”

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

³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the jews.

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

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

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

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

All who see me mock me;

They hurl insults, shaking their heads.

“He trusts in the Lord,” they say, “let the Lord rescue him.

Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”

Remember me, Lord, when you show favor to your people.

Come to my aid when you save them.

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Third Word

John 19:25–27

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

This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel,
and to be a sign that will be spoken against,

so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.

And a sword will pierce your own soul too.

Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?

**Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven
is my brother and sister and mother.**

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45, 46

The Death of Jesus

⁴⁵From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

⁴⁶About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lemasabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

My God, I cry out by day but you do not answer,

by night, but I find no rest.

"In that day," declares the Sovereign Lord, "I will make the sun go down at noon
and darken the earth in broad daylight."

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Fifth Word

John 19:28, 29

²⁸After this, when he knew that all things necessary for the Scripture to be fulfilled had now been accomplished, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A 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.

My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.

I am worn out calling for help;
my throat is parched.

They put gall in my food
and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Sixth Word

John 19:30

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

On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

Because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.
**I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.**

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Seventh Word

Luke 23:44–46

The Death of Jesus

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

Into your hands I commit my spirit;
deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

He has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.
He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

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.

Hymn: 436 The Seven Words

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.

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Stand

Reading

John 19:31–42

³¹Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³²The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. ³⁵The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," ³⁷and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."

The Burial of Jesus

³⁸Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. ³⁹He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. ⁴⁰Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. ⁴¹At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in

which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Be seated

Silence for meditation

Hymn: 437 Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor



1 Rest, O Christ, from all your la - bor; sleep with -
2 Peace at last from all your an - guish, wounds in
3 Help us keep this sol - emn Sab - bath as we
4 As, through part - ing Red Sea wa - ters, Is - rael



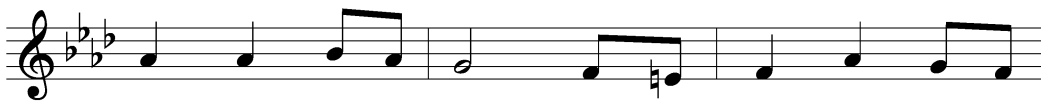
in your bor-rowed tomb. Foes have cru - ci - fied and
hands and feet and side. En - e - mies no long - er
wait for Eas - ter dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is
marched to lib - er - ty, so we pass thro' bap-tism's



bound you fast with - in death's nar - row room.
mock you, scourged, a - ban - doned, cru - ci - fied.
pass - ing; death's long reign will soon be gone.
wa - ter, washed by grace, from sin set free.



Pi - late's guards stand watch-ing, wait - ing where they
Faith - ful wom - en gath - er spic - es, weep for
Christ, in whom the new cre - a - tion ris - es
Je - sus, ris - en, liv - ing, reign - ing now and



rolled the seal-ing stone. All un - seen an - oth - er
you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who
bright - er than the sun: may we, as we watch for
through e - ter - ni - ty: grant that, through your life un -



watch - es: God will not for - sake his own.
guards you will not let your death be vain.
morn - ing, trust the vic - t'ry you have won.
dy - ing, we may live vic - to - rious - ly.

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Be seated

A loud sound may now be heard in the sanctuary. Known as the Strepitus, this sound represents the rending of Jesus' tomb. If seven candles have been extinguished during the service, the reappearance of a burning candle foreshadows Christ's return to life.

Dismissal statement

Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Amen.

