

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Peachtree City, Georgia

Good Friday † April 10, 2020 † 7:00 p.m.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor

Miriam Beecher, Pastor

David Beecher, Minister of Music

Tom and Delee Rebak, musicians and readers

P = Pastor L = Lector [reader] C = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (hymnal, if you have one at home)

We gather in silence.

A Tenebræ Service follows a tradition of the church dating back to the eighth century. From Latin, the word *Tenebræ* means “darkness” and commemorates the final days of our Lord’s life on earth leading up to his death on the cross.

This evening we reflect on Shadows Jesus encountered those three days.

In the early church the service of Tenebræ was celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of Holy Week.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
- C Amen.

INTROIT: THE PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

- P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.
- C Oh, come, let us worship him.
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THE SHADOW OF INGRATITUDE

- L Moses said to the people, “Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the Lord brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten.”
—Exodus 13:3
- C Hymn: Ah, Holy Jesus ELW Hymn 349
- 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.
- L O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?
Answer me.
I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.
- C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

THE SHADOW OF EXAMPLE: WASHING FEET

- L Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” ▶

⁷Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”

⁸Peter said to him, **“You will never wash my feet.”**

Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.”

⁹Simon Peter said to him, **“Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”**

¹⁰Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

—John 13:3-17

C Hymn: Love Consecrates the Humblest Act

ELW Hymn 360

- 1 Love consecrates the humblest act and haloes mercy's deeds;
it sheds a benediction sweet and hallows human needs.**
- 2 When in the shadow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet
of his disciples, he gave us a sign of love complete.**
- 3 Love serves and willing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true
has freely done for one and all, let us now gladly do!**

- L** My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom.
I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

THE SHADOW OF THE CROWN OF THORNS

- L** Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began saluting him, **“Hail, King of the Jews!”**
¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

—Mark 15:16-20

C Hymn: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW Hymn 351

- 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.**

- L** I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
but you have given me a crown of thorns.
I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

THE SHADOW OF TORTURE

- L** Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; ⁶⁴they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, **“Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?”**

⁶⁵They kept heaping many other insults on him.

—Luke 22:63-65

C Hymn: Go to Dark Gethsemane, Stanza 2

ELW Hymn 347

- 2 Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.**

L O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed;
I gave you my peace, but you draw a sword in my name,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION

L When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

³⁸Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and 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.**"

⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴²"**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.** ⁴³**He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'**"

⁴⁴The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

C **Hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus, Stanza 2**

—ELW Hymn 338

2 Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
The wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.

L O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.

I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross;

I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

THE SHADOW OF DEATH

L When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

C **Hymn: Were You There?**

—ELW Hymn 353

**Were you there when he bowed his head and died? Were you there when he bowed his head and died?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when he bowed his head and died?**

L O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.

I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink;

I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood,

but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

C **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

- L** Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."
—John 19:31-38
- C** **Hymn: The Crucified My Lord, Stanzas 1, 3, and 5** —*ELW Hymn 350*
- 1** **They crucified my Lord, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
they crucified my Lord, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
not a word, not a word, not a word.**
- 3** **They pierced him in the side, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
they pierced him in the side, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
not a word, not a word, not a word.**
- 5** **He hung his head and died, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
He hung his head and died, and he never said a mumbalin' word;
Not a word, not a word, not a word.**
- L** O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.
I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear;
I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.
- C** **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**
- C** **Closing Hymn: There in God's Garden, Stanza 5** —*ELW Hymn 342*
- 5** **This is my ending, this my resurrection; into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.
This I have searched for; now I can possess it. This ground is holy.**
- P** When the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,
"Truly this man was God's Son!"
We depart in silence.

By 7:00 in the evening 1,990 years ago, Jesus would have died far quicker than most crucifixion victims, would have been taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb. His disciples would have fled Golgotha and locked the doors of their upper room in fear, uncertain of the future. We can understand their panic, we who live on this side of Jesus' resurrection. We can empathize with them. The gradual darkening of the church portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it.

Please complete your experience of The Passion by joining us online Sunday morning.
"The Word" portion of the service is recorded, and available to watch any time.
"The Meal" will be celebrated live at 10:45 a.m.
You may prepare by setting aside some form of bread, and optionally wine or grape juice.
We invite you to support Christ Our Shepherd's ministries, which continue meeting new needs.
If you like, you may Text: MYCOS to 73256.