

Good Friday Worship + The Passion According to St. John Community of Christ Lutheran Church + Whitehouse, Ohio March 29, 2024 + 7:00pm

Worship Over The Three Days

The Vigil of Easter (Holy Saturday) 7:00pm
The Resurrection of our Lord (Easter Sunday) 8:00am and 10:00am

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About Our Worship This Evening

"It is finished."

And with that final word of Jesus, there is nothing more to say. The story of Jesus' suffering and death will speak for itself tonight, as we hear the <u>Passion according to St. John</u> with no further commentary or homily, other than to say that the death of Jesus is really woven of one piece with the life of Jesus—in his speaking, acting, eating, serving, suffering, and dying, Jesus poured himself out for the world in one great motion of love and justice, truth and grace.

In our worship this evening, we not only listen to what Christ Jesus has done in giving his life for us, but we also pray for the needs of the church and the world for whom Christ died. The traditional <u>Bidding Prayer</u> creates a rhythm of praying in which we are called to pray for a particular need, a time of brief silent prayer is kept, and then the Presiding Minister gathers our prayers in a spoken petition, to which the congregation responds, "Amen." Just as Jesus' spent his final hours caring for others in his words, his prayer, and his patient suffering, we mark this night caring for **all** in prayer.

Even though we mark the death and burial of Jesus tonight, we know that these will not be the last word of the story. We end our worship tonight knowing there is another verse to be sung, another hope to be fulfilled, another promise to be kept. And so we depart in silence this evening, leaving unsaid those things for which we must wait, and knowing that all that is necessary to say is captured in those final words from our Lord, "It is finished."

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Good Friday—March 29, 2024 —7:00pm

+ Community of Christ Lutheran Church + Whitehouse, Ohio+

Gathering in Silence

- + At this sign, all who are able are invited to stand.
- + Prayer of the Day
 - P Let us pray: 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



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Amulf of Louvain, c. 1250; tr. composite Music: HURZLICH TUT MK'H VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500, adapt, Hans L. Hassler, 1564–1612

First Lesson

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him
 —so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
 and his form beyond that of mortals—

15 so he shall startle many nations;

kings shall shut their mouths because of him;

for that which had not been told them they shall see,

 $and\ that\ which\ they\ had\ not\ heard\ they\ shall\ contemplate.$

^{53:1}Who has believed what we have heard?

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

² For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground:

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their face he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ 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.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him

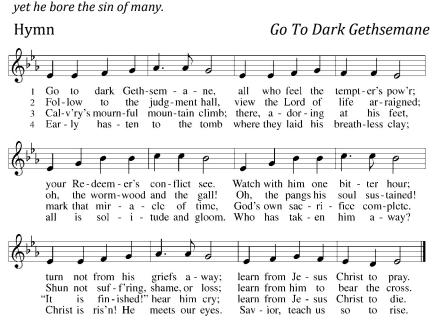
the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;

like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By a perversion of justice he was taken away.Who could have imagined his future?For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

9 They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, and made intercession for the transgressors. although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
 When you make his life an offering for sin,
 he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
 through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.
 Out of his anguish he shall see light;
 he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
 The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
 and he shall bear their iniquities.
 Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
 and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
 because he poured out himself to death,
 and was numbered with the transgressors;



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Second Lesson

Hebrews 4:14-16: 5:7-9

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested* as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.... ^{5:7} In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Passion According to St. John

My Song Is Love Unknown, verse 1

My Song Is Love Unknown, verse 2

My Song Is Love Unknown, verse 3

My Song Is Love Unknown, verse 4

My Song Is Love Unknown, verse 5

My Song Is Love Unknown, verses 6-7

(congregation remains seated)

John 18:1-14

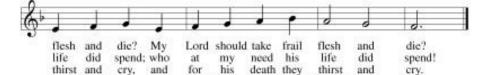
John 18:15-32

John 18:33-19:16a

John 19:16b-30

John 19:31-42





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5 They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away; a murderer they save, the prince of life they slay. Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

them

rise;

oh, my friend, my

Then "Cru - ci - fy!"

Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet

But,

gainst him

6 In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have; in death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was his home; but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

him

gainst

7 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Bidding Prayer

- ALet us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church of God throughout the world that God the almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship in peace and tranquility, and for the world itself for which Christ died and was buried. (Silent prayer follows.)
- P Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to every people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

ALet us pray for...

The Prayer continues with this pattern repeated several times—an invitation calling us to pray for particular needs, a space of time for silent prayer, a spoken petition, and the congregation's response of **Amen.**

- P Finally, Let us rise to pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, even in the words Jesus gave us:
- + **Q** 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

+ Placing of Nails

All are invited to come forward and place a nail in the large wooden cross at the front of the center aisle, while the congregation sings, "Jesus, Remember Me..."



ext: Luke 23:42

Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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P Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship Christ.

+ Hymn Were You There



+ Sending

P We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The congregation departs in silence.