



**Immanuel Lutheran Church & School**

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## As We Gather

Good Friday is very different than a funeral. At a funeral, we celebrate the blessings of someone's earthly life. But we also we mourn the fact of their death. Their death is something we wish we could forget. In the case of Jesus, his death is the very thing we gather to celebrate and remember. In fact, we prolong the remembrance. We dwell on the details. We even call this day "good." For we know why Jesus willingly endured the agony of the cross. It wasn't a tragic miscarriage of justice. Jesus suffered this punishment vicariously. He was pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. Because he did, we are now right with our holy God. Jesus' punishment is our peace.

### ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

#### Hymn

171 (1-4, 6, 8-9) – Upon the Cross Extended

#### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### Confession and Absolution

**P** We gather before God, remembering the cross in sorrow and in shame. We seek His forgiveness, strength, and mercy. We remember the day of our Savior's death. We mourn and struggle to understand the depth of Christ's love—that He should suffer and die in our place. Father, our hearts are heavy as we gather in the name of Christ, bearing witness to the terror of His crucifixion, knowing full well that we are guilty sinners, in need of Your forgiveness, life, and salvation.

**C** Christ our Savior has died for our sins.

**P** At times, we have failed to strive against evil in the world.

**C** Christ our Savior has died for our sins.

**P** At times, we have denied our Lord.

**C** Christ our Savior has died for our sins.

**P** At times, we have betrayed our Lord.

**C** Christ our Savior has died for our sins. Have mercy on us, Lord, and grant us forgiveness. Amen.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, as a called servant of our crucified Savior Jesus Christ, announce His grace and mercy to You. In His stead and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray...

...who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C** Amen.

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

<sup>13</sup> Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. <sup>14</sup> Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; <sup>15</sup> So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider. <sup>1</sup> Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. <sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. <sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. <sup>8</sup> He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the

living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. <sup>9</sup> And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. <sup>10</sup> Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. <sup>11</sup> He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.

### First Word

Luke 23:32-34

<sup>32</sup> There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. <sup>33</sup> And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. <sup>34</sup> Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots.

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

### Hymn

CW 436 (1) – The Seven Words

1. Their nails were freshly driven,  
their hatred clearly shown,  
when, “Let them be forgiven,”  
was heard in heaven’s throne.  
Your enemies, O Jesus,  
you loved beyond degree,  
a love so pure and precious  
it even pardoned me.

### Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

<sup>35</sup> And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.” <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, <sup>37</sup> and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.”

<sup>38</sup> And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS <sup>39</sup> Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.” <sup>40</sup> But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup> Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (2) – The Seven Words

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.

## Third Word

John 19:25-27

<sup>25</sup> Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son!” <sup>27</sup> Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (3) – The Seven Words

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.

## Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45-46

<sup>45</sup> Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. <sup>46</sup> And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (4) – The Seven Words

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.

## Fifth Word

John 19:28-29

<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, “I thirst!” <sup>29</sup> Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (5) – The Seven Words

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.

## Sixth Word

John 19:30

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (6) – The Seven Words

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.

## Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-46

<sup>44</sup> Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. <sup>45</sup> Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'" Having said this, He breathed His last.

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

CW 436 (7) – The Seven Words

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.

## Sermon Text

Seven Last Words from the Cross



*Sermon*

## Meditation on the Seven Last Words

## Offertory

TLH 179 – On My Heart Imprint Thine Image

On my heart im - print Thine im - age, Bless-ed Je - sus,  
King of Grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea-sures



Have no pow'r Thee to ef-face. This the su - per -  
 scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my Life, my  
 hope's Foun - da - tion, And my Glo-ry and Sal-va - tion.

**Hymn**

170 – O Perfect Life of Love!

## General Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

### Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

**Hymn**

175 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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