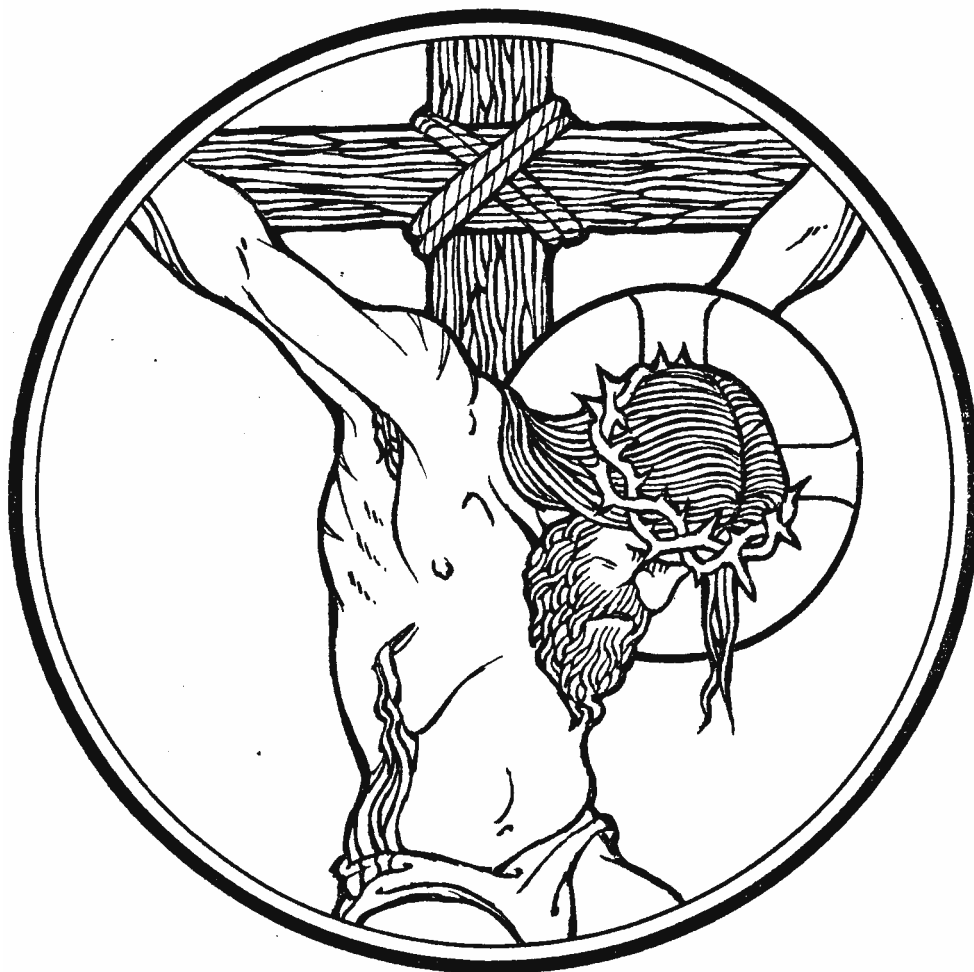


Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

6514 E 750 N Ossian, IN 46777

A congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



Good Friday

Chief Service

April 3, 2026

The congregation and pastors enter in silence.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

¹³Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

¹⁴As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵so shall he sprinkle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

¹Who has believed what they heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his stripes we are healed.

⁶All 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.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,

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

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Collect

P Let us pray.

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect,

he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

Collect

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The Passion Reading of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Hymn #440 vs 1 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*



I Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
Text and tune: Public domain

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

The congregation reads the bold portions.

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, “*Whom do you seek?*” ⁵They answered him, “**Jesus of Nazareth.**” Jesus said to them, “*I am he.*” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶When Jesus said to them, “*I am he,*” they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷So he asked them again, “*Whom do you seek?*” And they said, “**Jesus of Nazareth.**” ⁸Jesus answered, “*I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men*

go. ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: *“Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.”* ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, *“Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”*

Hymn #440 vs 2-3 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*



2 Make me see Your great dis-tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,



Bonds and stripes and wretch-ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.



Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;



How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

¹²So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people. ¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The servant girl at the door said to Peter, **“You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?”** He said, **“I am not.”** ¹⁸Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself. ¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, *“I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret.”* ²¹*Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.”* ²²When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, **“Is that how you answer the high priest?”** ²³Jesus answered him, *“If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?”* ²⁴Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. ²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, **“You also are not one of his disciples, are**

you?” He denied it and said, **“I am not.”**²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, **“Did I not see you in the garden with him?”**²⁷Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

Hymn #440 vs 4-5 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

4 Grant that I Your pas-sion view With re-pen-tant griev-ing.
5 If my sins give me a-larm And my con-science grieve me,
Let me not bring shame to You By un-ho-ly liv-ing.
Let Your cross my fear dis-arm; Peace of con-science give me.
How could I re-fuse to shun Ev-ry sin-ful plea-sure
Help me see for-give-ness won By Your ho-ly pas-sion.
Since for me God's on-ly Son Suf-fered with-out mea-sure?
If for me He slays His Son, God must have com-pas-sion!

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

²⁸Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went outside to them and said, **“What accusation do you bring against this man?”**³⁰They answered him, **“If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.”**³¹Pilate said to them, **“Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.”** The Jews said to him, **“It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.”**³²This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³³So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, **“Are you the King of the Jews?”**³⁴Jesus answered, *“Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?”*³⁵Pilate answered, **“Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?”**³⁶Jesus answered, *“My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”*³⁷Then Pilate said to him, **“So you are a king?”** Jesus answered, *“You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”*³⁸Pilate said to him, **“What is truth?”** After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, **“I find no guilt in him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”**⁴⁰They cried out again, **“Not this man, but Barabbas!”** Now Barabbas was a robber.

Hymn #440 vs 6 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*



6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, “**Hail, King of the Jews!**” and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, “**See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him.**”⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “**Behold the man!**”⁶When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “**Crucify him, crucify him!**” Pilate said to them, “**Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him.**”⁷The Jews answered him, “**We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God.**”⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “**Where are you from?**” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, “**You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?**”¹¹Jesus answered him, “*You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin.*” ¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, “**If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.**”¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “**Behold your King!**”¹⁵They cried out, “**Away with him, away with him, crucify him!**” Pilate said to them, “**Shall I crucify your King?**” The chief priests answered, “**We have no king but Caesar.**”¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

Hymn #450 vs 1 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!

Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612
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Tune: Public domain

Please stand for the next two sections in honor of Jesus' crucifixion and death.

So they took Jesus, ¹⁷and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "**Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'**" ²²Pilate answered, "**What I have written I have written.**" ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴so they said to one another, "**Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.**" This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." So the soldiers did these things.

Hymn #450 vs 2-3 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001711
Tune: Public domain

²⁵Standing by 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 nearby, he said to his mother, “*Woman, behold, your son!*”²⁷Then he said to the disciple, “*Behold, your mother!*” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. ²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “*I thirst.*”²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “*It is finished,*” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*The bell will ring thirty-three times, once for each year of our Lord’s earthly life.
The pastor and assistants will kneel
and all may bow their heads in reverence and gratitude.*

Hymn #450 vs 4-5 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.
5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,



Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?



Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,



Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav’n - ly joys a - bove.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross

on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³²So 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. ³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.” ³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Hymn #450 vs 6-7 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*



6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;
7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;

Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.

When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,

But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

Sermon

Hymn #453 *Upon the Cross Extended*



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
2 Come, see these things and pon - der, Your soul will
3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so
4 I caused Your grief and sigh - ing By e - vils



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
 fill with won - der As blood streams from each pore.
 sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?
 mul - ti - ply - ing As count - less as the sands.



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
 Through grief be - yond all know - ing From His great heart came
 We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -
 I caused the woes un - num - bered With which Your soul is



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
 flow - ing Sighs well - ing from its deep - est core.
 gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.
 cum - bered, Your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

- 5 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.
- 6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
 Bind me to You forever,
 I am no longer mine.
 To You I gladly tender

All that my life can render
 And all I have to You resign.

- 7 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.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt.
 Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517
 Text and tune: Public domain

Bidding Prayer

- A** Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:
- P** Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

A Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God:

P Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for our catechumens, that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord:

P Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

P O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially *[name]*, our President; the Congress of the United States; *[name]*, our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:

P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

P Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and

for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:

P Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

P O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:

P O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

A Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:


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.

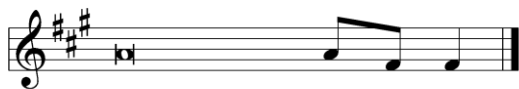
The Procession of the Cross

Please stand and face the back of the church, then turn as the cross moves forward.

This response is repeated three times:



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



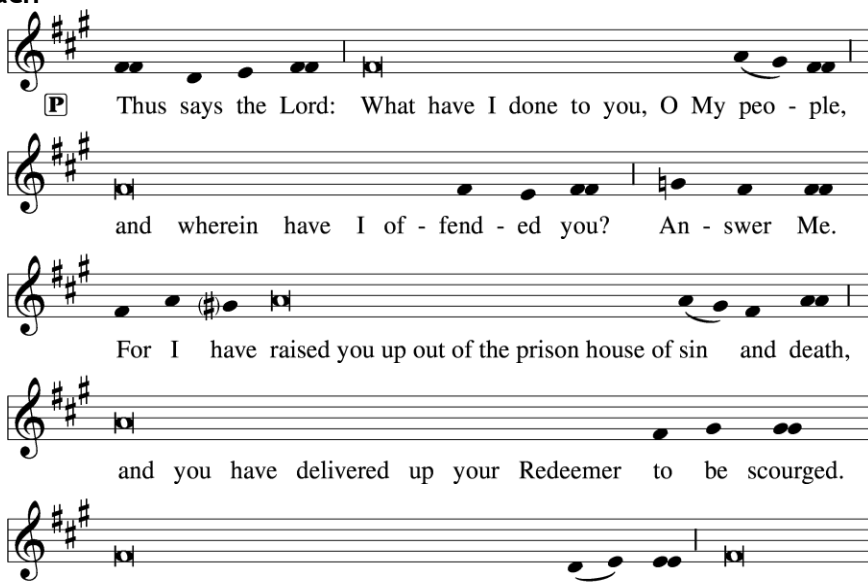
G O come, let us wor - ship Him.

*Following the final response, the pastor and assistants will kneel.
All may bow their heads in reverence and gratitude.*

Reproaches

This is the Lord speaking to His people, the Church. The pastor sings the part of Christ while the choir/kantor and congregation responds with prayers for mercy.

Reproach



P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,
and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.
For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death,
and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged.
For I have redeemed you from the house of bond - age, and you have

nailed your Sav - ior to the cross. O My peo - ple.

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -

deem - er; God eternal, leave us not to

bit - ter death. O Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn #434 vs 1 *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,

Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.

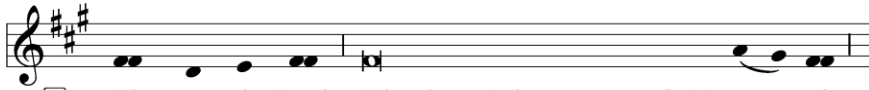
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



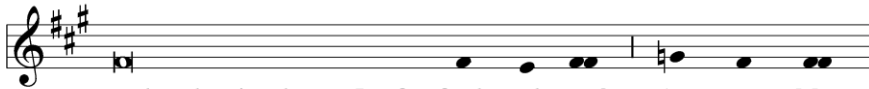
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
Text and tune: Public domain

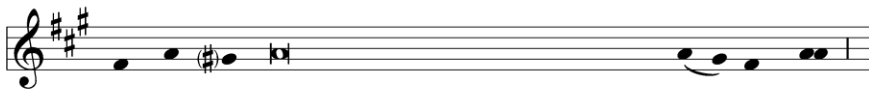
Reproach



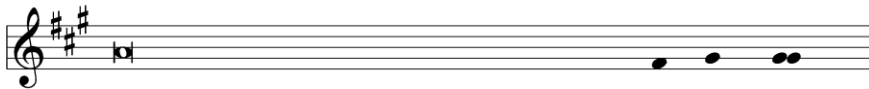
P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,



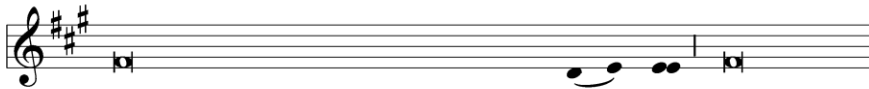
and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.



For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death,



and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged.



For I have redeemed you from the house of bond - age, and you have



nailed your Sav - ior to the cross. O My peo - ple.



Ho - ly Lord God, holy and might - y God, holy and most merciful Re -

deem - er; God eternal, leave us not to

bit - ter death. O Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn #434 vs 2 *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*

2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
 Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
 All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
 Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
 Text and tune: Public domain

Reproach

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My peo - ple,
 and wherein have I of - fend - ed you? An - swer Me.

Hymn #434 vs 3 *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*

3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

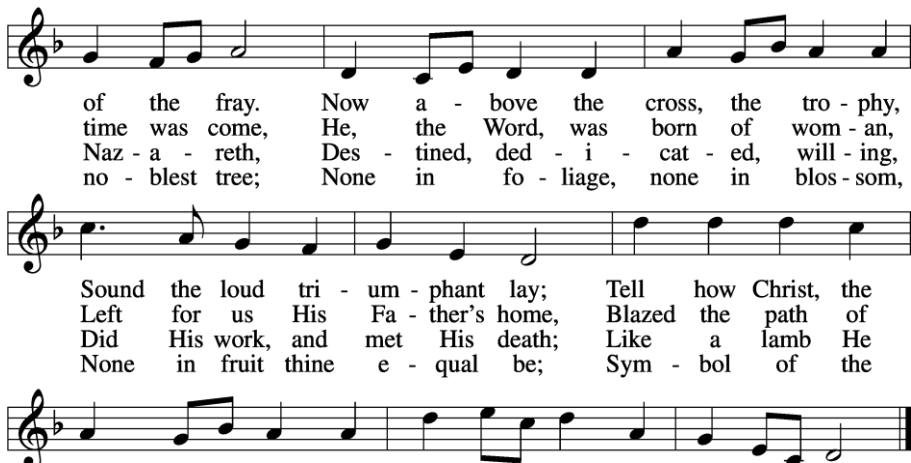
Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Text and tune: Nicolaus Declus, c. 1485–after 1546
Text and tune: Public domain

Adoration of Christ

☐ We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.
God be merciful to us and | bless us,*
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy up- | on us.
We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.

Hymn #454 vs 1-4 *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; Sing the end - ing
2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness Of the ap - point - ed
3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, He went forth from
4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, Be for all the



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the tro - phy,
time was come, He, the Word, was born of wom - an,
Naz - a - reth, Des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,
no - blest tree; None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,

Sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; Tell how Christ, the
Left for us His Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of
Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He
None in fruit thine e - qual be; Sym - bol of the

world's re - deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.
true o - be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.
hum - bly yield - ed On the cross His dy - ing breath.
world's re - demp - tion, For the weight that hung on thee!

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530–609; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021

Text: Public domain

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Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

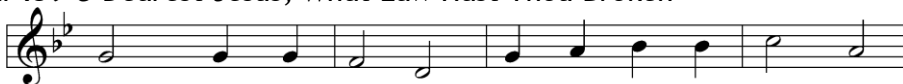
Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Distribution

Today we celebrate the Lord’s Supper in our worship. Bethlehem Lutheran Church administers this Holy Supper in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. It is celebrated in the confidence that we receive, along with the Bread and Wine, the very Body and Blood of Jesus through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Furthermore, the communicants as a body of believers make a confession of the unity of their faith. **Those desiring to receive the Sacrament with us, who are not communicant members of Bethlehem or of a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, are asked to please speak with the Pastor before the service.**

Hymn #439 *O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken*



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
 2 Thy crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
 3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
 4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.
- 6 There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.
- 7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.
- 8 O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?
- 9 For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee!
Can I requite Thee?

- 10 Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly
All fires unholy.
- 11 But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!
- 12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.
- 13 Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me
Nor death alarm me.
- 14 But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness
Nor shame my weakness.
- 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

Concluding Collect

- P** Let us pray.
We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn #455 *The Royal Banners Forward Go*



1 The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go;
2 Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
3 Ful - filled is all that Da - vid told
4 On whose hard arms, so wide - ly flung,



The cross shows forth re - demp - tion's flow, Where He, by
Life's tor - rent rush - ing from His side, To wash us
In sure pro - phet - ic song of old, That God the
The weight of this world's ran - som hung, The price of



whom our flesh was made, Our ran - som
in the pre - cious flood Where flowed the
na - tions' king should be And reign in
hu - man - kind to pay And spoil the



in His flesh has paid:
wa - ter and the blood.
tri - umph from the tree,
spoil - er of his prey.

5 O tree of beauty, tree most fair,
Ordained those holy limbs to bear:
Gone is thy shame, each crimsoned bough
Proclaims the King of Glory now.

△ 6 To Thee, eternal Three in One,
Let homage meet by all be done;
As by the cross Thou dost restore,
So guide and keep us evermore.
Amen.

Text: Venantius Honorius Fortunatus, c. 530-609; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (sts. 5-6): tr. The Hymnal 1982
Tune: Paul D. Weber, 1949
Text: Public domain
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The pastor and congregation leave in silence.

IN HIS SERVICE

Preaching

Rev. Anthony Dodgers

Celebrant

Rev. Samuel Wirgau

Vicar

Sem. Charles McLain

Fieldworkers

Sem. Brandon Streeks and Sem. Nolan Wolf

Deaconess

Wendy Boehm

Head Elder

Bruce Werling

Elders on Duty

Bruce Werling and Mike Schumm

Kantor

Richard Brinkley

Altar Guild Chairman

Deann Oliver and Denise Schumm

Ushers

Rory Geiger, Lane Harkless, Isaac Harkless

Mark Patrick, Darren Patrick, Cole Patrick

