

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE



ST. JOHN 19:30b  
“IT IS FINISHED”

# GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2026

3:00 pm

(The congregation enters in silence.)

Use these words to meditate upon as you prepare for worship:

*We must note in the first place that Christ by His suffering not only saved us from the devil, death, and sin, but also that His suffering is an example, which we are to follow in our suffering...For God has appointed that we should not only believe in the crucified cross, but also be crucified with Him...what is needed is to hold fast and submit oneself to it, as I have said, namely, that one know that we must suffer, in order that we may thus be conformed to Christ, and that it cannot be otherwise, that everyone must have his (her) cross and suffering. When one knows this it is the more easy and bearable, and one can comfort oneself by saying: Very well, if I want to be a Christian, I must also wear the colors of the court; the dear Christ issues no others in His court; suffering must be there...none should dictate or choose his own cross and suffering, but rather when it comes, patiently bear and suffer it.*

—Martin Luther, Sermon at Coberg 1530

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray

**C: Almighty God, look with mercy on Your family of faith gathered here and across the world, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given over into the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; and Who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen**

The First Lesson

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.*

Musical Offering

*To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord*

Bell Choir

The Psalmody of the Day (read responsively)

Psalm 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup>**O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.**

<sup>3</sup>Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>**In You our fathers trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them.**

<sup>5</sup>To You they cried and were rescued; in You they trusted and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>**But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people.**

<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>**“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver him; let Him rescue him, for he delights in Him!”**

<sup>9</sup>Yet You are He who took me from the womb; You made me trust You at my mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>**On You was I cast from my birth, and from my mother’s womb You have been my God.**

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

<sup>12</sup>**Many bulls encompass me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

<sup>14</sup>**I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;**

<sup>15</sup>my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; You lay me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup>**For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—**

<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones — they stare and gloat over me;

<sup>18</sup>**they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.**

<sup>19</sup>But You, O LORD, do not be far off! O You my help, come quickly to my aid!

<sup>20</sup>**Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

<sup>22</sup>**I will tell of Your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>**For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and He has not hidden His face from him, but has heard, when he cried to Him.**

(continue on next page)

<sup>25</sup>From You comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.

<sup>26</sup>**The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live for ever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.

<sup>28</sup>**For kingship belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>**Posterity shall serve Him; it shall be told of the LORD to the coming generation;**

<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn, that He has done it.

**Second Lesson:**

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

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.*

Musical Offering

*Who Is The Man?*

Adult Choir

\*Hymn

*Ah, Holy Jesus*

(ELW) No. 349

**\*Gospel:**

**John 18:1-19:42**

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

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.*

**Sermon**

**Rev. Robert Grewe**

**The Bidding Prayer** (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

P: Let us pray.....

C: (Silent prayer)

P: Almighty and eternal God.....We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*(Bidding Prayers are prayed 9 times)*

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

**\* Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**\*Adoration of the Cross**

*The Cross is carried in procession, proclamation by Pastor, response by congregation and the cross is placed before the altar.*

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

**C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

*As the procession is halfway to the altar:*

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

**C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

*As the procession ends at the altar:*

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

**C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

*The cross is offered to nail your sin upon.*

*Silence is kept for reflection and meditation.*

**\*Solemn Reproaches**

P: O My people, O My church....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: Forty years I led you through the desert....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I planted you as my fairest vine....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: O My people, O My church....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

*Period of Silence is kept.*

P: O My people, O My church....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I struck down your enemies....and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: O My people, O My church....but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I grafted you into My people Israel, but you made them scape goats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

P: I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters....and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

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

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

**C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Sit for Hymn of Meditation**      O Sacred Head, Now Wounded      (ELW) No. 351

**\*Closing Hymn**      Were You There?      (ELW) No. 353

You may stay as long as you like in silence and meditation, and to offer your prayer on the cross of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ.

Leave in silence when you wish.

## **First Lutheran Church**

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Online services posted weekly on website: <https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Mark Black, Matthew Mazzotti, Lutheran Lay Worship Leaders

Retired: J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

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### **Welcome to our Visitors!**

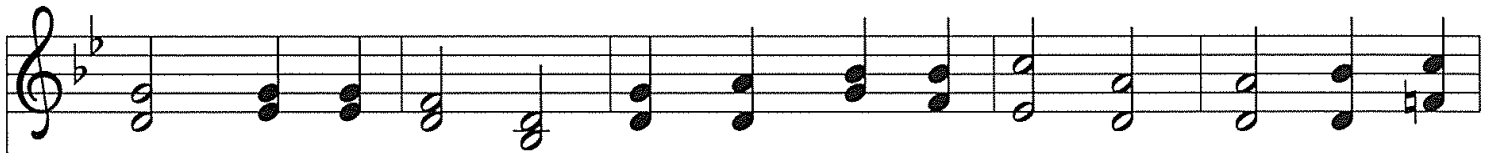
The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have any questions or are interested in hearing about membership, please see the pastor or contact the Church Office.

**The Lay Reader** is: Mark Black.

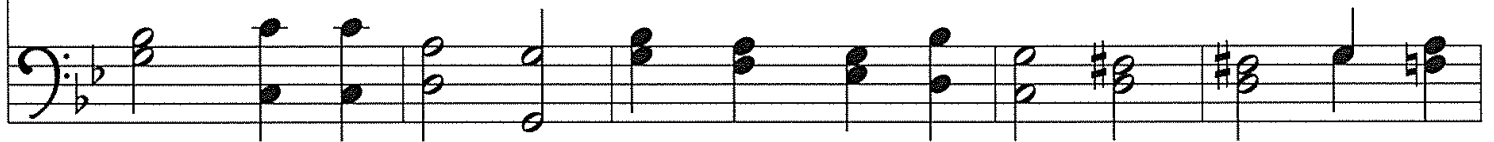
**Acolytes** are: Heidi and Denico Walsh.

**Please join us:**

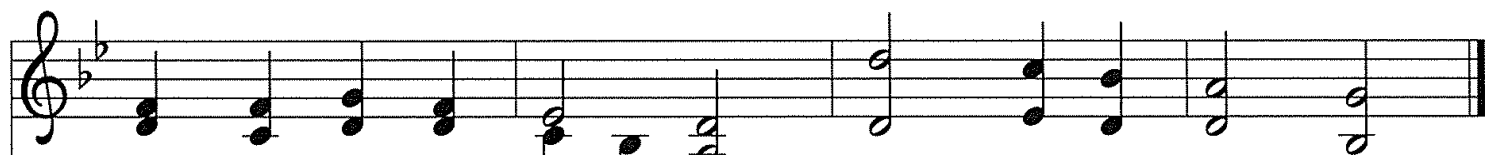
**Sunday, April 5, 2026, The Resurrection of Our Lord, we worship at 10:00 am with the Holy Communion Service.**



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



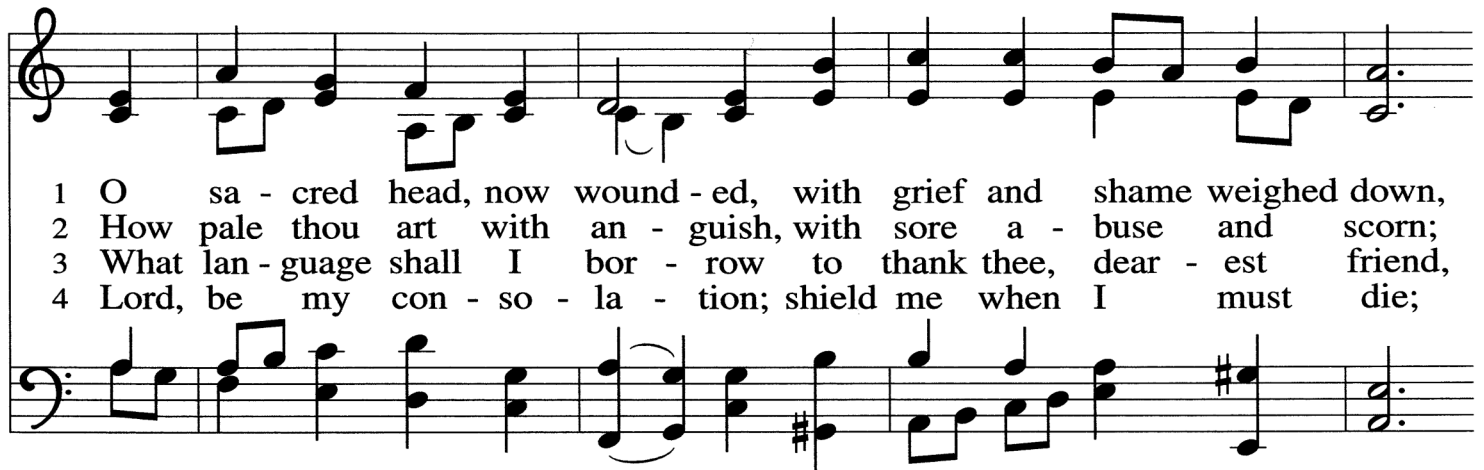
judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



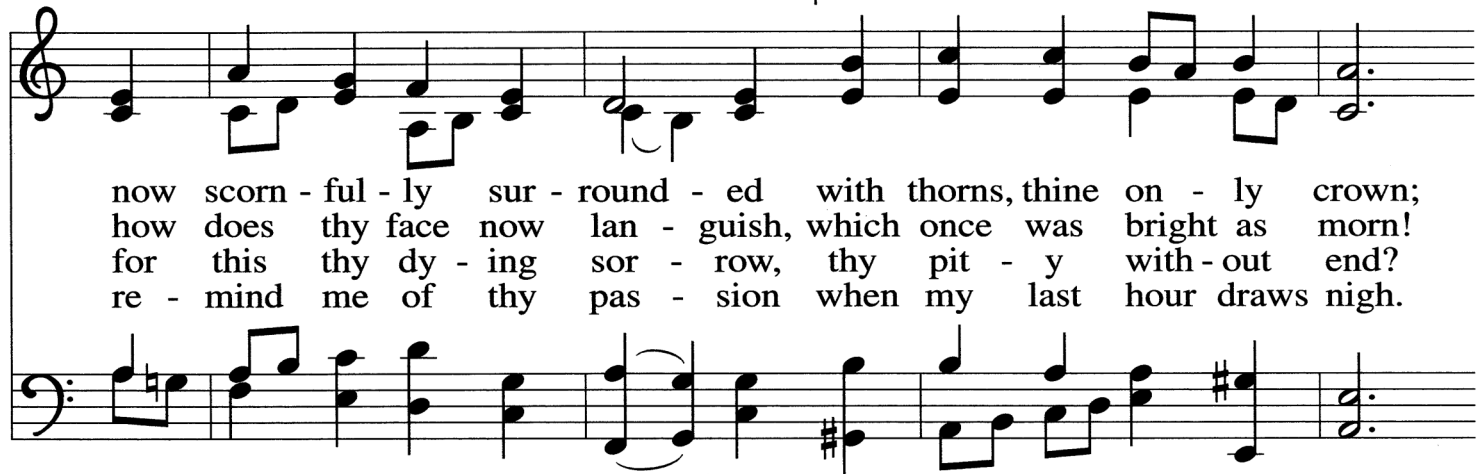
by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.  
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.



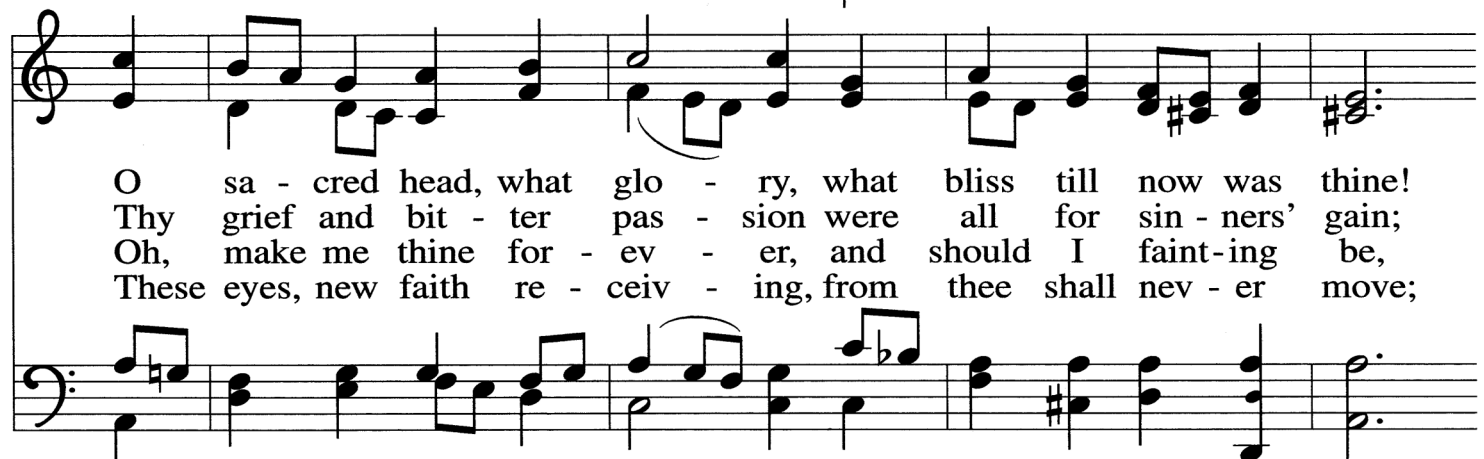
## O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

# Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

*Refrain*

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru ci fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

***Listening for the Promise***  
Weekly Devotional  
**Good Friday - April 3, 2026**

*“<sup>30</sup> When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said,  
“It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”*

*John 19:30 -*

Darkness. Tears. Mourning. Silence. It seemed that all hope had been lost. Jesus had died. Just moments earlier the crowd had been yelling, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” The loud sounds of hammers beating down on the nails that secured our Lord to the cross were deafening. Screams of agony from the Savior’s mouth could be heard for miles. The wailing cries of his mother Mary and the other women and men, who had grown to love Jesus as their friend were heartbreaking. And as Jesus gave up his spirit, more chaos ensued. Darkness covered the earth, the earth shook, and the curtain was torn from top to bottom as the Heavenly Father’s grief cried out from the heavens above at the loss of his only begotten son. Eventually the silence came. Not the kind of silence that allows you to feel at peace. No, this was the kind of silence that left you wondering, “What now?” The kind of silence that leaves you feeling uncomfortable, like when something isn’t fully complete. The kind of silence that leaves you thinking all hope is lost.

When I was serving in South Dakota, we held a Tennebrae service on Good Friday. The church was dark and silent when everyone left. It was dark except for one light: the paschal candle. It served as a reminder that hope is never lost because Christ is always with us. Well, I enjoy talking to people, so to keep myself from being tempted to talk after the service, I would go into my dark office and stay there until most of congregants had left. One year when my son Henrik was about four or five, he was in the dark office with me. We were whispering quietly. I wanted to make sure Henrik wasn’t afraid since it was dark and quiet. I picked up Henrik and went to the window of my office, where outside, the bell tower with the cross could be seen since it had lights on it after dark. I pointed to the cross and said, “Henrik? Can you see the cross? It’s lit up outside.” Without missing a beat he responded, “Yes, Mom, but the cross is *always* lit.”

The cross is always lit. Henrik was absolutely right! We don’t have to live without hope because “it is finished.” Jesus defeated the devil. He defeated sin. And he defeated death. And he did it all because he loves us so much. The light of Christ is always with us, and that darkness will never overcome the earth again. The light of Christ is always on the cross; the cross is always lit.