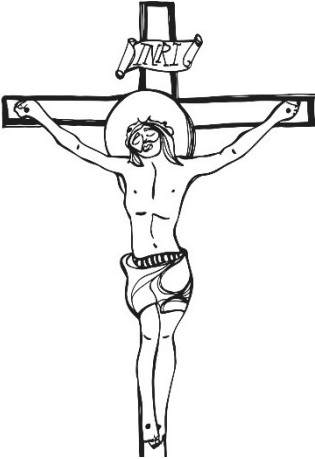


# Good Friday

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

Service Music: ELW, Setting 3 (ELW, page 138)

Year A, Good Friday (ELW, page 31)



Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

## WELCOME!

Guests, we are glad you have joined us today! If you would like to receive contact from the pastor or welcoming committee following this worship service, please fill out a card from the pew slot and put it in the offering plate.

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

### **PSALMODY: Psalm 22**

*The assembly rises in body or spirit. We continue where we left of on Maundy Thursday with the remaining verses of Psalm 22.*

#### **Refrain**

My God, my God, why have you for - sak - en me?

<sup>15</sup> My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;

and you have laid me in the | dust of death.

<sup>16</sup> Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers | circles round me; they pierce my hands | and my feet.

<sup>17</sup> I can count | all my bones while they stare at | me and gloat.

<sup>18</sup> They divide my gar- | ments among them;  
for my clothing, | they cast lots. **R.**

<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, be not | far away;  
O my help, hasten | to my aid.

<sup>20</sup> Deliver me | from the sword,  
my life from the power | of the dog.

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the | lion's mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

<sup>22</sup> I will declare your name | to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you. **R.**

<sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;  
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

25 From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
 I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.  
 26 The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,  
 Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live  
 forever! **R.**

27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
 all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

28 For dominion belongs | to the LORD,  
 who rules o- | ver the nations.

29 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;  
 all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel  
 be- | fore the LORD.

30 Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,  
 whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.

31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
 saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R.**

## **PRAYER**

P: 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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:13—53:12**

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

14 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 faces  
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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> They made his grave with the wicked

and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence,

and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with affliction.

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.

<sup>11</sup> Out of his anguish he shall see;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,

and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup> 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,

yet he bore the sin of many

and made intercession for the transgressors.

A: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:16-25**

[After the Holy Spirit says,] <sup>16</sup> “This is the covenant that I will make with them

after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,

and I will write them on their minds,”

<sup>17</sup> and he adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

<sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering

for sin.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

A: Word of God. Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly remains seated during the gospel reading.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**GOSPEL**

P: The holy gospel according to **St. John 13:1-17, 31b-35**

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

*[Passage found on page 107 in the Pew Bible]*

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

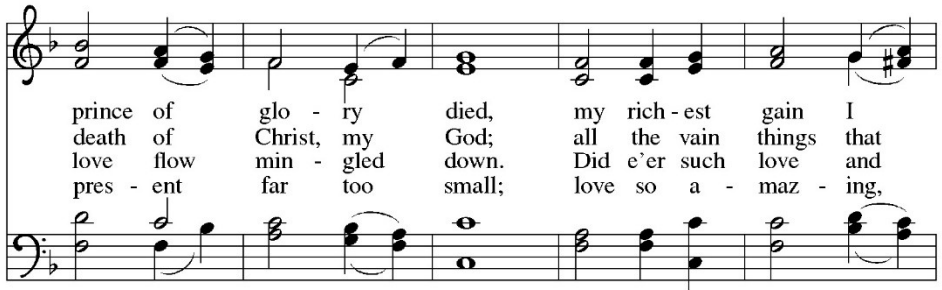
**SERMON**

*The assembly rises in body or spirit to sing the Hymn of the Day.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 803 *When I Survey the Wonderous Cross*



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

*Choir comes forward during the last verse of the Hymn of the Day.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## PRAYER

### BIDDING PRAYER

*The assembly kneels or sits. The assisting minister leads the invitations to prayer (the bids). Silence for prayer follows each bid. The presiding minister leads the prayers that conclude the silence.*

A: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for Amy Current our Bishop, for Bryce Hewlett our Vicar, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for the Jewish people, our forebearers in the faith.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different  
names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more  
faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask  
this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace  
in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace  
in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you  
as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in  
the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask  
this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness,  
give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice,  
peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We  
ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have  
lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,  
free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from  
falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on  
you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in  
their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

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

**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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we  
forgive those who trespass against us. 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 assembly rises in body or spirit.*

## PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the world. **C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

*(Repeated three times as the cross processes to the altar.)*

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*Jesus Came to Earth*

*Words by J. Paul Williams*

*Music by Lee Roesti*

## PRAYER AT THE CROSS

*During the Prayer at the Cross all are welcome to come forward to light a candle and pray around the cross.*

## MEDITATION *In Silence We Wait*

The image shows two lines of musical notation in G major (one flat) on a treble clef staff. The first line contains the lyrics: "In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you". The second line contains the lyrics: "come to us; bring us your light." The music consists of simple, slow-moving notes, with a final fermata over the word "light.".

In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you  
 come to us; bring us your light.

# ELW 353 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?  
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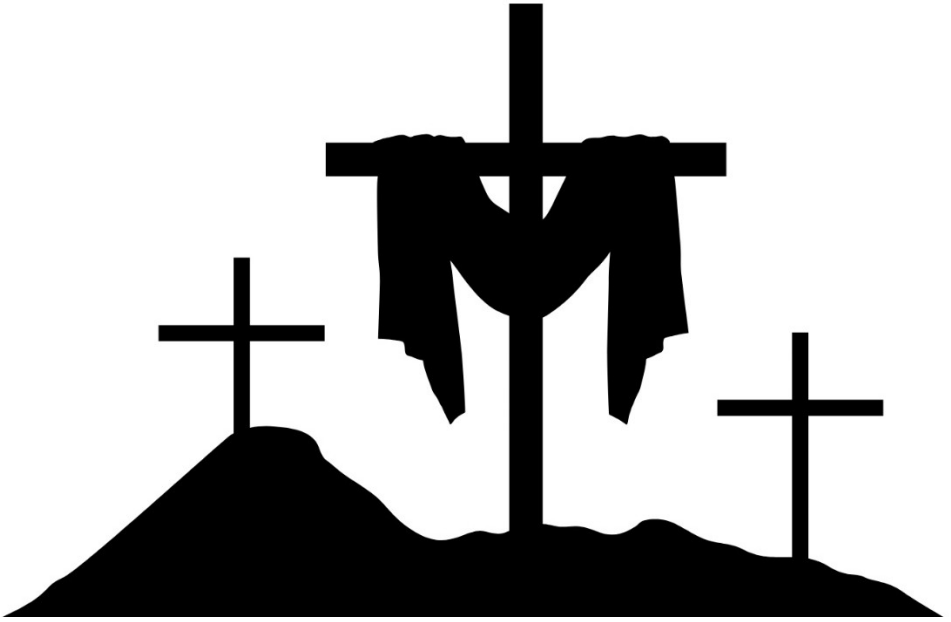
## Refrain

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?

*All are welcome to come to the cross for meditation or silent prayers before departing. There is no Blessing, Dismissal, or Postlude; all depart in silence.*

*All are welcome to observe the transition from Good Friday to Easter Sunday with the Easter Vigil at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday evening.*



*...my God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

*Psalm 22*