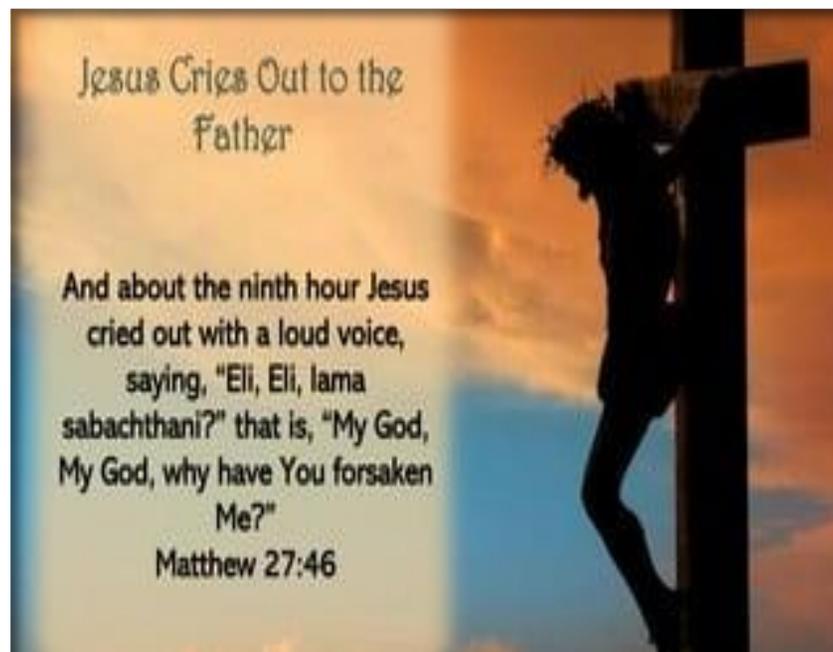
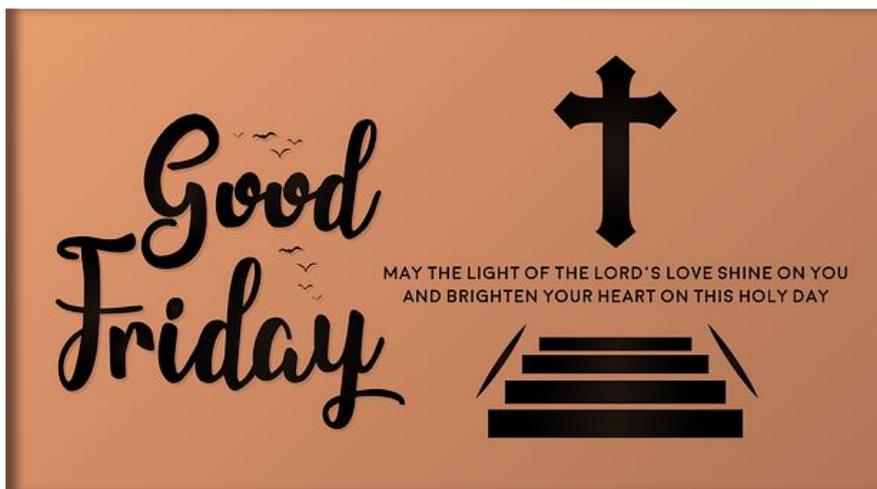


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"Reflecting and Sharing Jesus Christ"

Grace Lutheran Church
Good Friday - Service of Light and Darkness
April 7th, 2023, 10:30 a.m.



If you would like a visit from Pastor Fred, to share a prayer concern, or have any questions about today's service please contact the church office.

Ministers:

Pastor:
Office Administrator:
Caretaker:
Treasurer:
Council Chairperson:

Members & Friends of Grace

Fred Schneider Home: 780-312-1776
Dorothy Schmidt Home: 780-352-0302
Tasha Mackey Home: 780-352-1468
Kathy Coroluick Home: 780-352-6990
Vivian Holtby Home: 780-352-1246

Guiding Principles

Jesus is Lord
We Welcome Everyone
We Value God's Creation
We Are Open to the Power of God
We share God's love
Through Worship and Service
We Offer Forgiveness for All

Good Friday – Service of Light and Darkness

April 7th, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

SERVICE OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS

On this day, the church gathers to hear the proclamation of the Passion, to pray for the life of the world, and to meditate on the life-giving cross.

The service is a continuation of last evening, when we gathered around the table to share in the Lord's Supper, so there is no call to worship. Neither is the story ended today.

This service is patterned after the ancient office of **Tenebrae**. The word "Tenebrae" means "darkness". The sanctuary will darken gradually as each portion of St. John's account of Jesus' death is read and considered, reminding us of the darkness of the hour of our Lord's death. It also reminds us of the darkness of the world without the Light of the world, Jesus Christ.

The exit of the Christ candle near the close of the service signifies Christ's burial. The candle is not extinguished, as it is the symbol of the eternal light of God's love.

Then the Gospel book is lifted over the altar and is slammed shut to acknowledge that, with the sealed tomb, the meaning of the cross is fulfilled, and God's plan for the salvation of the world is complete.

Although the service concludes on a note of shock, sadness and death, the story is not over. The Christ candle returns to the Baptismal font, a lone candle in the darkness, as a reminder of the hope and promise of Easter, and the ultimate victory of light over darkness.

GATHERING

CHOIR – When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

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—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. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? 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. 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. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

TENEBRAE SERVICE:

• MATTHEW 27:27-31—THE SOLDIERS MOCK JESUS

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They

stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Hymn ELW 351: O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27:32-37—JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Hymn ELW 353 vs. 1-2 – Were You There

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27: 38-44 – BANDITS AND LEADERS MOCK JESUS

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

Hymn ELW 336: Lamb of God

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27: 45-50 JESUS DIES

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you

forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

Hymn ELW 337 – Alas And Did My Savior Bleed

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27: 51-53 - THE EARTH SHAKES AND TOMBS ARE OPENED

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.

Hymn ELW 353: vs.3-4 – Were You There

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27: 54-56 – THE CENTURION RESPONDS

Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

Hymn ELW 803: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Candle Extinguished

• MATTHEW 27:57-61 – JESUS IS BURIED

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Hymn ELW 353: vs.5 – Were You There

Christ Candle Extinguished The Gospel Book is slammed shut

MEDITATION: THE CRUCIFIXION

BIDDING PRAYERS

Each petition ends with....We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

After last petition – The Lord’s Prayer – ELW 264 (right side)

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

Behold the life-giving cross,
On which was hung the Savior of the whole world.
Oh, come, let us worship him. (3x)

SOLEMN REPROACHES

Each solemn reproach ends with – **But you have prepared a cross for your Savior.**

Please respond with - **ELW 161 - HOLY GOD**

HYMN: CHORUS BOOK 159 – THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

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Today, April 7th, 2023 – Worship Participants:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Pastor: | Pastor Fred |
| Accompanist: | Colleen McGinnis |
| Lector: | Arlen Forth |
| Usher: | Connie Maygard |
| Sound Booth: | Larry Coroluick |
| Projector: | Deanna Grohn |

