

Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Service of Darkness
April 10, 2020

AS WE GATHER

It seems strange to call this day “good.” After all, on this day, Jesus, our Savior and Lord, was tortured, beaten, spit upon, and brutally crucified on a cross. What is good about that? Actually, the goodness of this day is extensive and amazing. At the cross, God’s plan to redeem the world came to full fruition. Rather than ignore our sin, pretend it away, or eternally turn away from us, God became one of us, and in an act of pure self-sacrifice and love, Jesus willingly suffered the worst. For you. For me. For the world. Ours is not a God who says to us, “If you obey Me well enough, then I might love you.” Our God says to us at the outset, “I love you. I willingly gave My life for yours. If you want to see the extent of My love, look to the cross. Let My love draw you to hear and obey Me.” So today’s service is not a funeral for Jesus. It is a way to remember the events of Jesus’ death—including the allusions to it already in the Old Testament. It is an occasion for us to be drawn closer in love to the God who loves us unconditionally. It is an occasion to weep over our sin that made the crucifixion of Jesus necessary. It is an occasion to rejoice in the forgiveness and peace that comes from putting our faith in our crucified Lord. It is an occasion to marvel at the breadth, height, and depth of God’s love for us. Yes, it is Good Friday.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Pastor: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
People: **upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.**

Pastor: O LORD, rebuke me not in Your anger,
People: **nor discipline me in Your wrath!**

Pastor: For Your arrows have sunk into me,
People: **and Your hand has come down on me.**

Pastor: There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation;
People: **there is no health in my bones because of my sin.**

Pastor: For my iniquities have gone over my head;
People: **like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.**

Pastor: I confess my iniquity;
People: **I am sorry for my sin.**

Pastor: Make haste to help me,
People: **O Lord, my salvation!**

Pastor: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
People: **upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.**

CREED

Nicene Creed

People:

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ∞ of the world to come. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People:

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.

CONTEMPLATION OF THE CROSS

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

Pastor: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.
People: **O come, let us worship Him.**

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

John 18:1–19:42

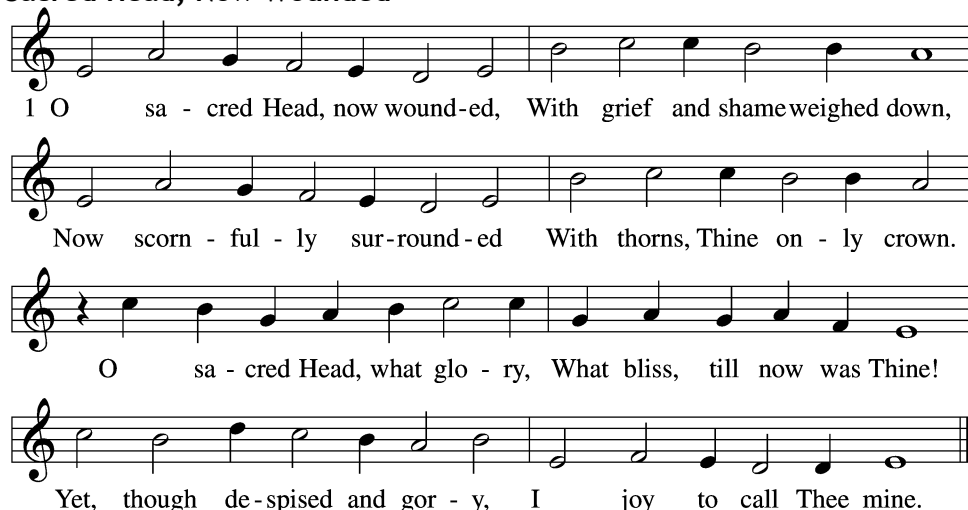
440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



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

READING *John 18:1–11* (Betrayal and arrest of Jesus)

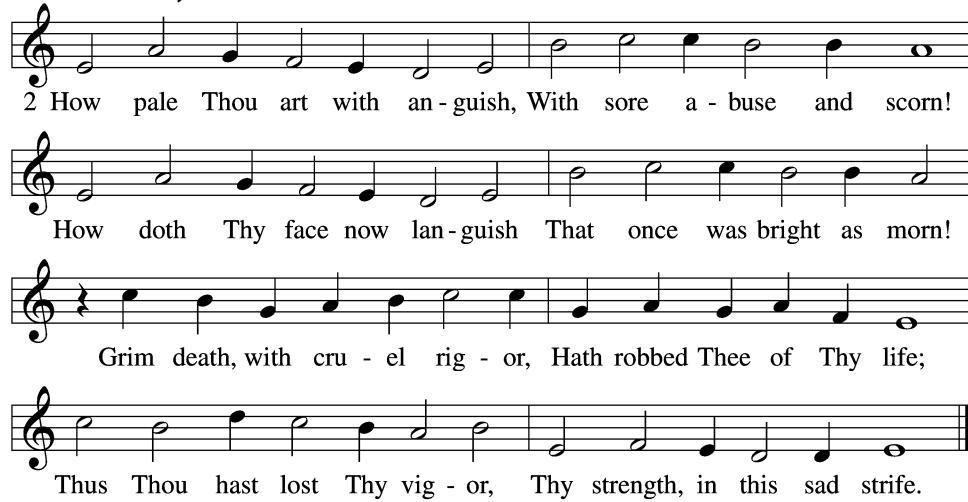
450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
Tune: Public domain

READING *John 18:12–27* (Jesus before the High Priest and the denial of Peter)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

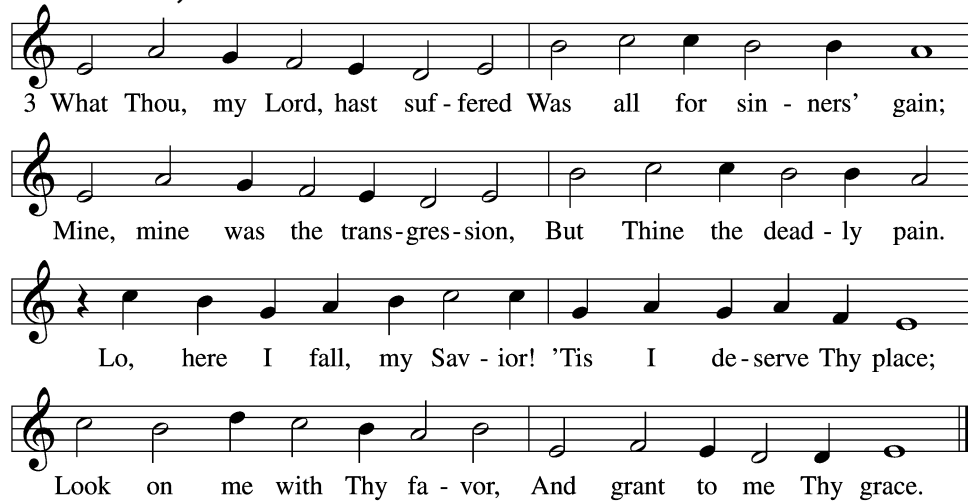


2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!
Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
Tune: Public domain

READING *John 18:28–40* (Jesus before Pilate)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
Tune: Public domain

READING *John 19:1–16a* (Jesus prepared for crucifixion)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard-ian, own me Thine.
Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.

Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;
 Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
 Tune: Public domain

READING *John 19:16b–24* (The crucifixion of Jesus)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
 For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?
 O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
 Tune: Public domain

Homily

READING *John 19:25–30* (Jesus' mother and His death)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;
 Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!
 When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,
 But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
 Tune: Public domain

READING *John 19:31–42* (Jesus' side is pierced)

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;
Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.
Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,
My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

The musical score is written on four staves in G-clef, 4/4 time. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes below each staff.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002700
Tune: Public domain

Silence

Strepitus

Service from Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.