

→ Opening Prayer →

Hymn: TLH #159 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Based on Ps. 53; 51; 1 Jn 2; Micah 7; 2 Sam. 12; 1 Pet. 5; Ps. 103

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- P God looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God. Every one of them has turned aside; They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, no, not one.
- Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight— Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.
- P But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
- Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy.
- The LORD also has put away your sin. Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith.
- Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Response: WS #724 "Jesus, Remember Me"

☐
☐ Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (2x)

Note: Following the next hymn, the lights will be turned off while the final Scripture passages are read. At the end of each reading a candle will be put out. This is to show the increasing agony and darkness that our Savior suffered for us, until finally, He willingly gave up His life for us.

Our service will conclude with the Lord's Prayer, followed by the tolling of the bells 33 times. After this, you are asked to exit the service silently, greeting one another only after you have exited the building. If you wish to stay and meditate, you are invited to do so. As you leave, it would be fitting to think of those events that occurred on that first Good Friday and of the victory that our Savior won for us by His death.

HYMN: TLH #140:1-3,5 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

The Good Friday Tenebrae Readings

First Scripture Reading:

Second Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:24-26

Matthew 27:27-31

Third Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:32-37

Fourth Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:38-44

Fifth Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:45-49

Sixth Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:50-56

Seventh Scripture Reading:

Matthew 27:57-60

The Benediction

P Go now into the darkness of evening. Though we walk in darkness, we are not forsaken. We are led by the hand of God. May the love of the Father calm your fears. May the grace of the Lord Jesus keep you through the night. May the presence of the Holy Spirit sustain you throughout life. The Lord be with you. Amen.

The Lord's PrayerTolling of the bell 33 times.

Our worship will resume on Sunday morning as the tomb is opened to reveal Christ's victory over death!

8:30-9:30 am Easter Brunch | 10:00 am Easter Victory Service

H Reading from the Passion History of Our Lord H

Quartet "Were You There"

Confession of Faith

Smalcald Articles, Part II, Article I

We boldly confess what we believe.

The first and chief article is this, that Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins, and was raised again for our iustification. And He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. And God has laid upon Him the iniquities of us all. Likewise: All have sinned and are justified without merit (freely, and without their own works or merits) by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood. Now, since it is necessary to believe this, and it cannot be otherwise acquired or apprehended by any work, law, or merit, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us as St. Paul says, "For we conclude that a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the Law. That He might be just, and the Justifier of him who believes in Christ." Of this article nothing can be yielded or surrendered nor can anything be granted or permitted contrary to it, even though heaven and earth and whatever will not abide, should sink to ruin. "For there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved," says Peter. And with His stripes we are healed.

HYMN: TLH #153 "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

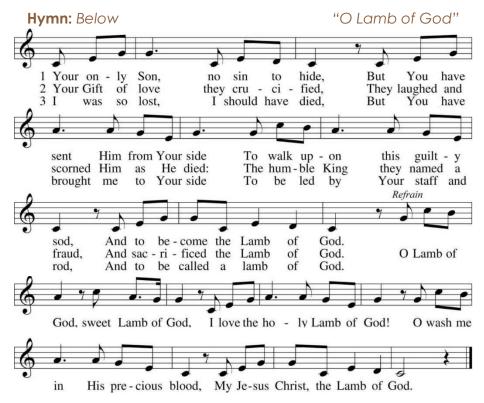
+ The Sermon +

John 19:28-30

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I

thirst." ²⁹ A 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. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Three Words of Truth: "It Is Finished"



P The Lord be with you.

The Order of Holy Communion



- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them up to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- lt is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, Who on the tree of the cross gave salvation unto mankind that, whence death arose, by the fault of one man, thence Life also might arise by the obedience of one Man; and that even as Satan overcame by a tree, likewise by a tree he was overcome, through the death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge

of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver us and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

→ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper →

