



*It Is
Finished!*

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

The Divine Service of the Word

Good Friday Afternoon, April 7, 2023

12:30-3:00 p.m.

Prelude:

"Meditation on Five Lenten Hymns"

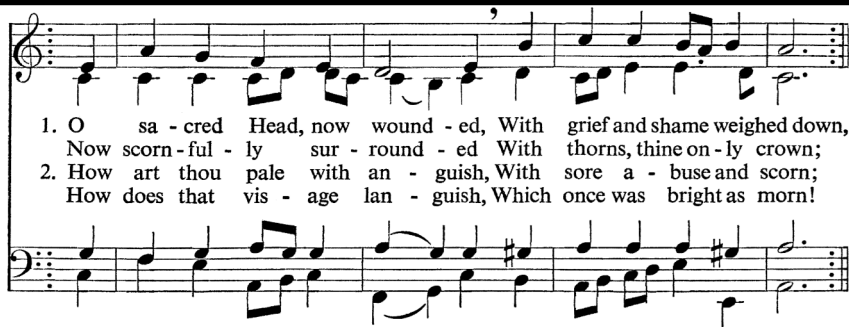
(M. Bloedow)

The Opening Hymn:

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

(SBH 88, 2nd tune)

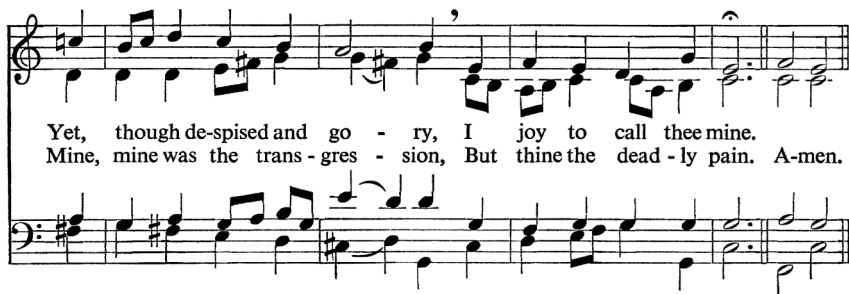
(Please stand as we
join our hearts in
song)



1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, thine on - ly crown;
2. How art thou pale with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn;
How does that vis - age lan - guish, Which once was bright as morn!



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;



Yet, though de-spised and go - ry, I joy to call thee mine.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But thine the dead - ly pain. A-men.

3 What language shall I borrow
To thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow,
Thy pity without end?
O make me thine for ever,
And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
Outlive my love to thee.

4 Be near when I am dying
O show thy Cross to me!
And, for my succor flying,
Come, Lord, to set me free.
These eyes, new faith receiving,
From thee shall never move;
For he who dies believing
Dies safely in thy love. Amen.

*Ascribed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153
Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76
Tr. James Waddell Alexander, 1804–59 a.*

The “invocation” is Latin for “call upon.” In the Invocation we remember our baptism and acknowledge God as our Father. We are reminded that through Christ’s name we have access to the Father’s throne by the Holy Spirit. Because we are children of God, we have the privilege to invite (invoke) God’s presence and blessing upon this service of “divine liturgy” in which we receive the Work of God through His Word and Spirit, and also in which we offer up to God our praise as an act of worship. *Hebrews 10:19-25; 13:15; Ephesians 2:18*

We confess our sins at the beginning of each service, because we are coming into the presence of a holy God. Though we are sinners who daily struggle with sin, we are invited to come to Him to receive the forgiveness of sin earned for us by Jesus. Through this forgiveness, we are given a right standing before a holy God.

Because sin is both corporate and personal, we confess our sins together, and privately in the silence of our hearts.

The Absolution is based upon God’s instruction in Luke 24:47 that repentance and the forgiveness of sins should be widely proclaimed in the name of Jesus. (See also 1 John. 1:9).

The Call to Worship and Invocation

Pastor (P): We open this service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation (C): Amen

The Confession of Sins

Pastor (P): Let us continue by confessing our sin.

Together:

O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities, whereby I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment; but I am heartily sorry for them all and repent of them truly, and I beseech Thee through Thine infinite mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinner. Amen.

The Absolution

The Introit (Read Responsively; Please stand)

P: Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.

C: He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. All we like sheep have gone astray.

P: And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Hear my prayer, O Lord.

C: And let my cry come unto Thee. (Isaiah 53: 4-6; Psalm 102: 1)

The Gloria Patri (Sung in Unison; SBH p. 17)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

God's chief means of extending His grace to His children is through His Word. Hearing it and learning it are central to His proper worship.

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 (NASB)

¹³ Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted. ¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you, *My people*, So His appearance was marred more than any man And His form more than the sons of men. ¹⁵ Thus He will sprinkle many nations, Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; For what had not been told them they will see, And what they had not heard they will understand. ⁵³ ¹ Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty that we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. ³ He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face he was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. ⁶ All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. ⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so He did not open His mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due*? ⁹ His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet He was with a rich man in His death, because He had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in His mouth. ¹⁰ But the LORD was pleased to crush Him, putting *Him* to grief; if He would render Himself *as* a guilt offering, He will see *His* offspring, He will prolong *His* days, and the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. ¹¹ As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see *it and* be satisfied; by His knowledge the Righteous One, my Servant, will justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.

The Agnus Dei:

C: O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;

O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us;

O Christ thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth

And In Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Meditations:

Seven Last Words of Christ

The Hymn (Part I)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

1. Je - sus, in thy dy - ing woes, E - ven while thy life-blood flows,

Crav - ing par - don for thy foes: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus. A-men.

2 Saviour, for our pardon sue,
 When our sins thy pangs renew,
 For we know not what we do:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

3 O may we, who mercy need,
 Be like thee in heart and deed,
 When with wrong our spirits bleed:
 Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen.

The First Meditation

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."—
 Luke 23:34 Kurt Ziegler

Special Music

Peggy Arelt, piano
 Come, You Sinners, Poor and Needy (L. Smith)

PART II

"Today shalt thou be with me in paradise"—Luke xxiii:43

1 Jesus, pitying the sighs
 Of the thief, who near thee dies,
 Promising him paradise:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

2 May we in our guilt and shame
 Still thy love and mercy claim,
 Calling humbly on thy Name:
 Hear us, holy Jesus.

3 May our hearts to thee incline,
 Looking from our cross to thine;
 Cheer our souls with hope divine:
 Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen.

The Second Meditation

"Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in paradise."—Luke 23:43
 Alan Hinkelman

The Special Music

Sue Swan, vocals
Carry Him Gently (R. Courtney and B. Red)

The Hymn (Part II)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

The Hymn (Part III)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

PART III

‘Woman, behold thy son!’ ‘Behold thy mother!’—John xix:26, 27

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Jesus, loving to the end
Her whose heart thy sorrows rend,
And thy dearest human friend:
Hear us, holy Jesus. | 2 May we in thy sorrows share,
For thy sake all peril dare,
And enjoy thy tender care:
Hear us, holy Jesus. |
| 3 May we all thy loved ones be,
All one holy family,
Loving for the love of thee:
Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen. | |

The Third Meditation

“Woman, behold, your Son!”—John 19:26

Eric Wente

The Special Music

There Is A Balm In Gilead (arr. M. Hayes)

Will Charlton

The Hymn (Part IV)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH 81)

PART IV

‘My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?’—Matt. xxvii:46

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Jesus, whelmed in fears unknown,
With our evil left alone,
While no light from heaven is shown:
Hear us, holy Jesus. | 2 When we seem in vain to pray,
And our hope seems far away,
In the darkness be our stay:
Hear us, holy Jesus. |
| 3 Though no Father seem to hear,
Though no light our spirits cheer,
May we know that God is near:
Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen. | |

The Fourth Meditation

“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”—Matthew 27:46

Rory Smith

The Hymn (Part V)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

PART V

‘I thirst’—John xix:28

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Jesus, in thy thirst and pain,
While thy wounds thy life-blood drain,
Thirsting more our love to gain:
Hear us, holy Jesus. | 2 Thirst for us in mercy still,
All thy holy work fulfill,
Satisfy thy loving will:
Hear us, holy Jesus. |
| 3 May we thirst thy love to know;
Lead us in our sin and woe
Where the healing waters flow:
Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen. | |

The Fifth Meditation

"I am thirsty."—John 19:28

Dan Groves

The Hymn:

"Beneath the Cross
of Jesus" (SBH #482)

1. Be - neath the Cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand;
2. Up - on that Cross of Je - sus, Mine eye at times can see

The shad - ow of a might-y rock With - in a wea - ry land;
The ver - y dy - ing form of One Who suf - fered there for me;

A home with - in a wil - der-ness, A rest up - on the way,
And from my smit - ten heart, with tears, Two won - ders I con - fess:

From the burn - ing of the noon-tide heat And bur - dens of the day.
The won - der of his glorious love, And my own worth - less - ness.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the piano accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some lines numbered 1 and 2. The score includes a variety of musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

3 I take, O Cross, thy shadow
For my abiding-place;
I ask no other sunshine than
The sunshine of his face:
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame,
My glory all, the Cross.

Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–69

The Hymn (Part VI)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

PART VI

‘It is finished’—John xix:30

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Jesus, all our ransom paid,
All thy Father’s will obeyed;
By thy sufferings perfect made:
Hear us, holy Jesus. | 2 Save us in our soul’s distress;
Be our help to cheer and bless,
While we grow in holiness:
Hear us, holy Jesus. |
| 3 Brighten all our heavenward way
With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day:
Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen. | |

The Reading of the Passion History VI (Page 24)

“Jesus’ Death On The Cross”

The Sixth Meditation

“It is finished.”—John 19:30

Mick Nowicki

The Special Music

Above All (Lenny LeBlanc/Paul Baloche) (CCLI #2672885)

Praise Team

The Hymn (Part VII)
The Words On The
Cross (SBH #81)

PART VII

‘Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit’—Luke xxiii:46

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Jesus, all thy labor vast,
All thy woe and conflict past;
Yielding up thy soul at last:
Hear us, holy Jesus. | 2 When the death shades round us lower,
Guard us from the tempter’s power,
Keep us in that trial hour:
Hear us, holy Jesus. |
| 3 May thy life and death supply
Grace to live and grace to die,
Grace to reach the home on high:
Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen. | |

Thomas Benson Pollock, 1836–96

The Seventh Meditation

“Father, into Your hands I commit My Spirit.”—Luke 23:46

Pastor McMinn

The Closing Prayer & Silent Prayer

The 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; 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 Benediction

The Closing Hymn:

"Were You There?"

(SBH #500 v. 1-3)

The Postlude:

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

(M. Burkhardt)

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? O : : : ;
there when they nailed him to the tree? O : : : ;

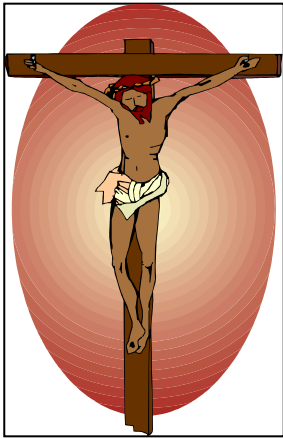
some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Let us leave the service in silence. Just remember always what Christ did for you and what He is doing for you forever. If you care to give an offering, you will find two offering baskets on the chairs in front of the chapel. Today, let us meditate upon the steps that Jesus took to the cross for us:

- I. Jesus Is Condemned To Death
- II. Jesus Is Made To Bear His Cross
- III. Jesus Falls Beneath The Weight Of The Cross
- IV. Jesus Meets His Precious Mother
- V. Simon Of Cyrene Helps Jesus To Carry His Cross
- VI. Jesus Speaks To The Daughters of Jerusalem
- VII. Jesus Is Stripped Of His Garments
- VIII. Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross
- IX. Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross
- X. Jesus Is Placed In The Tomb



Our Easter Services

7:00 Sunrise

8:30 and 11:00 Services

Holy Communion offered after the 8:30 and 11:00 services

Prayer Requests

Please use this space to let the
pastors, elders and/or church
know of your prayer needs.

[illegible]

☐ Please keep this request Private (to be kept for the pastor only).

☐ Please make this request known to the Ruthfred prayer team and announce it to the congregation when appropriate.

Visiting with us?

Please use this tear-off section to help us get to know a little bit about you and how we may best serve you.

If you have a specific concern or prayer request, please use the space on the other side of this fold.

Date:

Name:

Children:

Address:

Phone (indicate home, cell, etc.)

Email:

I am a/an:

- ☐ 1st-Time Visitor
- ☐ 2nd-Time Visitor
- ☐ Out-of-Town Visitor
- ☐ Regular Attendee

I would like to learn more about:

- ☐ What It Means To Be a Christian
- ☐ Church Membership
- ☐ Ruthfred's Ministries or Groups
- ☐ Ways To Share My Gifts

Ruthfred Staff

Rev. Bryce C. McMinn | Pastor
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 226)
PastorMcMinn@ruthfred.org

Melissa Bostaph | Parish Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 225)
MelissaBostaph@ruthfred.org

Sally Ondrejko | Office Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 222)
SallyOndrejko@ruthfred.org

John Morden | Accounting Manager
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 224)
JohnMorden@ruthfred.org

Felicia Rieck | Administrative Assistant
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 221)
FeliciaRieck@ruthfred.org

Brian Lyskava | Custodian

Andrew Vogel | Multi-Media Coordinator
(412) 568-3215
AndrewVogel@ruthfred.org

A. J. Dolence | Live Stream & Social Media Assistant
(412) 609-9098
DavidCompel@ruthfred.org

Robert Vogel
Senior & Bell Choirs

Frederick Schell
Organist

Essi Efthimiou
Interim Organist

Melissa Manzo
Children's Choir

Erin McMinn | Interim Preschool Head Teacher
(412) 835-7140 (ext. 234)
Preschool@ruthfred.org

Ruthfred Lutheran Church

3401 South Park Road
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania 15102
Phone: (412) 835-7140
Email: ruthfred@ruthfred.org
www.ruthfred.org