



*Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church.  
We pray this service will bring special meaning to  
your Lenten and Holy Week journey.*

*Please join us on **Easter Sunday**  
8:30 am (Sunrise in the Memorial Garden)  
10:30 am inside*

## PRELUDE

## INVOCATION

## GATHERING

Dear friends, we have come together at this solemn moment in the life of the church, to reflect on the sufferings of Our Lord in his last hours, and to dwell on our own shortcomings and human failings. Our hearts are great with sorrow and contrition, as we pray forgiveness for the errors of our foolish and arrogant ways. The darkness covers us all, and our spirits are brought low. Come then, let us walk in the shadows. Come then, let us seek the light.

He was despised and rejected of all, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief, and we hid our faces from him. He was despised, and we knew him not.

**Surely he has borne our grief, and carried our sorrows. Yet we knew him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.**

But he was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed.

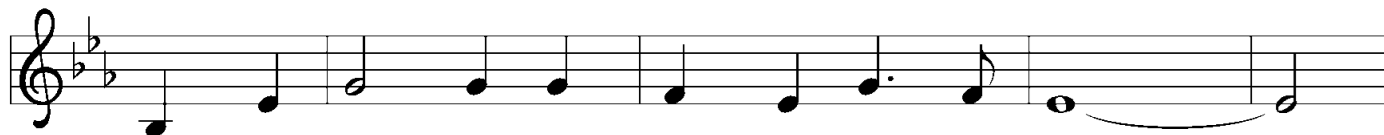
**All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned each of us to our own ways, and God has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:13-53:12**

**GOSPEL READING: John 18:1-19:42 (selected)**

## MEDITATION

PASTOR HARDENSTINE



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?



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 when the sun re - fused to shine?

## THE OFFERING

*(In response to what God has done for us, we graciously give of ourselves)*

## THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Together we pray,

**Merciful God, we cry out for the hope and healing you offer. Guide us continually to your service. Make us your hands to feed the hungry and prepare us to receive your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE BIDDING PRAYER

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A *Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the Almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the message of salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.       **C   Amen.**

A *Let us pray for our pastor and other ministers, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people of God.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors and our leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and help each of us 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 all the Baptized, that God would make us responsive to his love, and give us new life in Jesus Christ.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you continually bless the Church with new members. Increase our faith and understanding. Give us new life as your children, and keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C   Amen.**

A *Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one Church all those who know Christ as Lord.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you give your Church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C   Amen.**

A *Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your Church that the people you first made your own may arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.       **C   Amen.**

A *Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way of salvation.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the Gospel. Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your Godhead, and so to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.       **C    Amen.**

A *Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find him who is the author and goal of our existence.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C    Amen.**

A *Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere 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 that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.*

P Almighty and Eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. 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.**

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

**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**

## THE TENEBRAE

## SEVEN WORDS

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**ELW 353** 1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

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### THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:13-38

**Father forgive them, they know not what they do**

*Silent Meditation*

**ELW 353** 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

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### THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39-43

**Today you will be with me in Paradise**

*Silent Meditation*

**ELW 337** 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
and did my sov'reign die?  
Would he devote that sacred head  
for sinners such as I?

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### THE THIRD WORD

John 19:17-27

**Woman, behold your son... Behold your mother**

*Silent Meditation*

**ELW 337** 2 Was it for sins that I had done  
he groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
and love beyond degree!

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### THE FOURTH WORD

Matthew 27:45-49

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

*Silent Meditation*

ELW **337** 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide  
and shut its glories in  
when God, the mighty maker, died  
for his own creatures' sin.

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THE FIFTH WORD                      John 19:28-29

**I thirst**

*Silent Meditation*

ELW **337** 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face  
while his dear cross appears,  
dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
and melt my eyes to tears.

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THE SIXTH WORD                      Luke 23:44-49

**Into thy hands, I commit my spirit**

*Silent Meditation*

ELW **337** 5 But tears of grief cannot repay  
the debt of love I owe;  
here, Lord, I give myself away:  
'tis all that I can do.

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THE SEVENTH WORD                      John 19:30

**It is finished**

*Silent Meditation*

ELW **353** 4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

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THE PASCHAL CANDLE REMOVED                      Silence

*Silent Meditation*

**ELW 353** 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Silent Meditation*

(When the light returns, a foreshadowing of the resurrection, worshippers may leave the church in silence, when ready.)

***We depart in silence***