

**FATHER,
FORGIVE THEM!**



GOOD FRIDAY

TENEBRAE

2023

A Service of Tenebrae

April 7, 2023

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:13—53:12

HYMN

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”

CW21, 422



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, our guilt and
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, the Lamb of
3 “Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll bear what
4 From morn till eve, in all I do, I'll praise you,



e - vil bear - ing and, lad - en with the sins of earth,
God, our Sav - ior; him God the Fa - ther chose to send
you com - mand me. My will con - forms to your de - cree;
Christ, my trea - sure. To sac - ri - fice my - self for you



none else the bur - den shar - ing, goes pa - tient on,
to gain for us his fa - vor. “Go forth, my Son,”
I'll do what you have asked me.” O won - drous Love,
shall be my aim and plea - sure. My stream of life



grows weak and faint, to slaugh - ter led with - out com - plaint,
the Fa - ther said, “and free my chil - dren from their dread
what have you done! The Fa - ther of - fers up his Son,
shall ev - er be a cur - rent flow - ing cease - less - ly,



that spot - less life to of - fer; bears shame and stripes
of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and stripes
de - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how strong
your con - stant praise out - pour - ing. I'll trea - sure in



and wounds and death, an - guish and mock - er - y and saith,
are hard to bear, but by your pas - sion they will share
you are to save! You make his bed with - in the grave
my mem - o - ry, O Lord, all you have done for me,



“Will - ing all this I suf - fer.”
the fruit of your sal - va - tion.”
who built the earth’s foun - da - tion.
your gra - cious love a - dor - ing.

First Word

Luke 23:32–34

³²Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Meditation

Gracious Savior, you did not strike back with revenge against your enemies as they ridiculed and crucified you but prayed for their forgiveness. In your compassion, pardon us for our secret sins and sins we do not discern, and enlighten us to know and do your will.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 1



1 Their nails were fresh - ly driv - en, their ha - tred



clear - ly shown, when, "Let them be for - giv - en,"



was heard at heav - en's throne. Your en - e - mies, O



Je - sus, you loved be - yond de - gree, a love so



pure and pre - cious it e - ven par - doned me.

Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One." ³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." ³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: This is the King of the Jews. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Meditation

Mighty Redeemer, remember us as we walk through the darkest valleys of life and realize that our time on earth is ending. Stay close to us when we feel the pain and loneliness of dying and take away our fears with your certain promise of paradise.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 2

2 On you, my King, de - pend - ing, I'm rid of
all my sins! My fi - nal day here end - ing,
my first in heav'n be - gins. As you have tru - ly
spo - ken, in par - a - dise I'll be, with you in
bliss un - bro - ken— you will re - mem - ber me.

Third Word*John 19:25–27*

²⁵Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Meditation

Precious Jesus, you consider us friends and care about the needs of our bodies and souls. Keep us in your care as we walk the road of life and provide the blessings we need to gain safety, contentment, and joy in your service.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 3

3 A Sav - ior like no oth - er, all self - con -
cern de - nied, you served your griev - ing moth - er
while you were cru - ci - fied. My sin had made me
filth - y, but you, the per - fect child, were des - ig -
nat - ed guilt - y, and I am rec - on - ciled.

Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45, 46

⁴⁵From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

⁴⁶About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

Meditation

Lord Jesus, you endured the horrific penalty of our sins as your Father turned his face from you on the cross. Compel us to see in your sacrifice the dreadful nature of sin and call us to acknowledge the amazing depth of your love. Overcome our shame, dear Savior, and give us grateful faith.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 4

4 Con - demned, cut off, for - sak - en, out - side the
Fa - ther's care, by ter - ror o - ver - tak - en,
no ear would hear your prayer. On you God's wrath was
vent - ed, on you his fu - ry fell, when, on the
cross tor - ment - ed, you took my place in hell.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'The Seven Words'. It consists of five staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a '4' below it, indicating a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and half notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

Fifth Word

John 19:28, 29

²⁸After this, when he knew that all things necessary for the Scripture to be fulfilled had now been accomplished, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

Meditation

Dear Jesus, as our brother on earth you endured the agony of pain that besieged your body when your sacrifice was complete. Knowing our experiences, hover over us with your care and compassion when our bodies and hearts are hurting. Provide us with strength that we may confess you with confidence and power.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 5

5 My Lord, in death's dark val - ley, both soul and
bod - y drained, one drink would help you ral - ly
what lit - tle strength re - mained to raise your voice in
vic - t'ry, to sound your foe's de - feat— the high - est
point in his - t'ry— my res - cue was com - plete.

Sixth Word*John 19:30*

³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Meditation

Gracious Redeemer, you paid the full price for our redemption and have released us forever from the hold of Satan, the power of sin, and the fear of death. Protect us from the devil's claim that we need to do more and from the accusation of our consciences that we have not done enough. Lead us to place our entire confidence in you and to live our lives secure in your grace.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 6

6 Though sin's most le - tal wa - ges to me, O
 Christ, were due, the guilt of all the a - ges
 came crash - ing down on you. Most sure - ly, "It is
 fin - ished"—my debt is ful - ly paid; my joy is
 un - di - min - ished; my heart is un - a - fraid.

Seventh Word*Luke 23:44–46*

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon,
⁴⁵for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Jesus called out
 with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he
 breathed his last.

Meditation

Loving Savior, at the moment of your death you gave yourself into the loving hands of your
 Father. As we close our eyes in death, lead us to commit our bodies and souls to him who has
 summoned us by name and made us his own because of you and your love. Then, we pray, let
 us depart in peace.

Amen.

436 The Seven Words

CW 436 st. 7

7 My death will be tri - um - phant no mat - ter
 how I die; Lord Je - sus, in that in - stant
 es - cort my soul on high in - to my Fa - ther's
 keep - ing, all - blame - less and all - blest, like wak - ing
 up from sleep - ing, his hands my place of rest.

*Stand***READING***John 19:31-42**Be seated*

Silence for meditation

437 Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor

CW 437

1 Rest, O Christ, from all your la - bor; sleep with -
 2 Peace at last from all your an - guish, wounds in
 3 Help us keep this sol - emn Sab - bath as we
 4 As, through part - ing Red Sea wa - ters, Is - rael



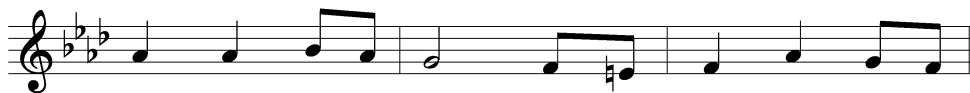
in your bor-rowed tomb. Foes have cru - ci - fied and
 hands and feet and side. En - e - mies no long - er
 wait for Eas - ter dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is
 marched to lib - er - ty, so we pass thro' bap-tism's



bound you fast with - in death's nar - row room.
 mock you, scourged, a - ban - doned, cru - ci - fied.
 pass - ing; death's long reign will soon be gone.
 wa - ter, washed by grace, from sin set free.



Pi - late's guards stand watch-ing, wait - ing where they
 Faith - ful wom - en gath - er spic - es, weep for
 Christ, in whom the new cre - a - tion ris - es
 Je - sus, ris - en, liv - ing, reign - ing now and



rolled the seal-ing stone. All un - seen an - oth - er
 you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who
 bright - er than the sun: may we, as we watch for
 through e - ter - ni - ty: grant that, through your life un -



watch - es: God will not for - sake his own.
 guards you will not let your death be vain.
 morn - ing, trust the vic - t'ry you have won.
 dy - ing, we may live vic - to - rious - ly.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007
 Tune: Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850
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Stand

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this, your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*(The **strepitus** is heard, a noise signifying the closing of the tomb and the earthquake. The Christ Candle is taken back into the chancel, but not extinguished, in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection.)*

DISMISSAL STATEMENT

Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Amen.

Stay and meditate for a while. When you are ready to leave, please, out of respect, leave the church in silence.

Preacher: Jeremiah Backhaus

Organist: Jon Hahm

PLEASE JOIN US EASTER SUNDAY MORNING TO CELEBRATE THE LORD'S RESURRECTION!

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service

9:30 a.m. Festival Service

There will be a special Easter breakfast held in the Family Life Center between services on Easter Sunday.

All are invited to attend.

A free-will offering will be taken.