

Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School Grafton, WI March 29, 2024 Worshipers may gather in silence.

Dialogue of Remembrance

The minister enters the chancel in silence.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.

Remember his words, for they give us light.

Remember his works, for they show us God's mercy.

Remember his grace, for it is greater than our sin.

Remember his glory, for it shines from the cross.

Remember his pain, for he took it up willingly.

Remember his sorrow, for it became our joy.

Remember his life, for it was perfect before God.

Remember his death, for it was ours.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.

Confession

¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Ephesians 2:1–3

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947 st. 1

Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer, ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer. All sin you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us: have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

¹⁰For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law."

Galatians 3:10

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947 st. 2.

Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer, ever patient and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer. All sin you carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

⁸Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

James 4:8–10

Holy Lord God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

CW 947 st. 3

Lamb of God, pure and holy,
who on the cross did suffer,
ever patient and lowly,
yourself to scorn did offer.
All sin you carried for us,
else had despair reigned o'er us:
your peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

¹³See, my servant will act wisely;
 he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.
 ¹⁴Just as there were many who were appalled at him—
 his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being
 and his form marred beyond human likeness—

 ¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations,
 and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
 For what they were not told, they will see,
 and what they have not heard, they will understand.

'Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
'He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
'He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

4Surely he took up our pain

⁴Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away.Yet who of his generation protested?For he was cut off from the land of the living;for the transgression of my people he was punished.

⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

¹¹After he has suffered,

he will see the light of life and be satisfied;

by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong,

because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

CW 429 sts. 1-4

Second Reading

Hebrews 7:26-28

²⁶Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

CW 429 sts. 5-7

Gospel John 19:17–30

¹⁷Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

²²Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

²³When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

²⁴"Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

"They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment."

So this is what the soldiers did.

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.

²⁸Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, 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. ³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

CW 422

Sermon John 1:29

Space is included for you to take notes during the sermon.

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today. You may make your gift in the following ways:

Give In person	The offering is collected during each service.	
Give with the App	Download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. Search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran".	
Give Online	Oursaviorgrafton.org/give	

Bidding Prayer

An assisting minister may speak the invitations to pray before each petition. A brief silence may precede each petition.

Let us pray for the whole Church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from the assaults of the evil one and help us remain faithful to your Word so that in every adversity, we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God.

Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of your people. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear them may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word, that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism.

Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your own dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism, that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live new and holy lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us.

Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still be glorified in them and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one, true God and Jesus Christ, whom he has sent.

Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your gospel, mercifully gather a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us.

Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you, whose name we bear. We ask that you change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without reason. Give them repentance and faith so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial.

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our grief and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation, that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he has taught us.

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; 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.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

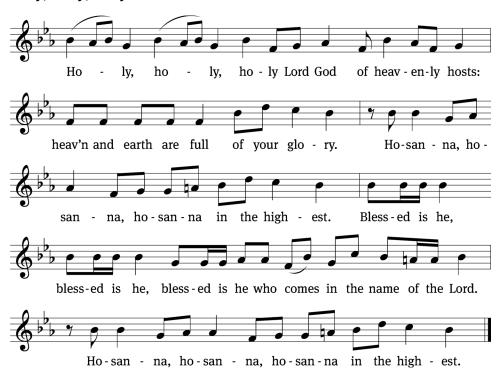
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy CW 167

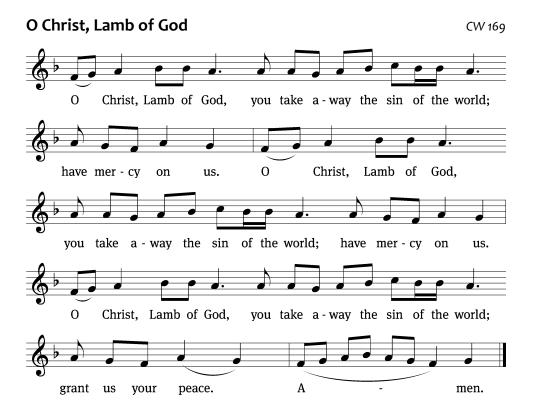


Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out 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. **Amen.**



Distribution

Out of sincere love for the truth of God's Word and precious souls, we practice closed Communion in our congregation. This has been the practice of Christians for centuries and is thoroughly scriptural. It neither questions the faith nor judges the heart of any individual, yet expects that there be full doctrinal agreement among those who commune. For this reason, we ask that only members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) join us for the Lord's Supper today. If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Fischer after the service.

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

CW 659

Prayer

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

CW 419

Dialogue of the Cross

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—so that your ways may be known on earth your salvation among all nations.

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him. We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross, joy has come into the world.

Brief silence

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The minister exits the chancel.

Worshipers may remain for prayer and meditation before exiting silently.

Acknowledgments

Good Friday: Service of Remembrance of the Cross from Christian Worship

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