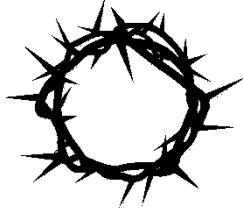


Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Friday, March 29, 2024

Good Friday/Tenebrae



Welcome

Prelude

Invocation

P Though he was in the form of God, He did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

C Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

First Word

“Father, Forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Hymn: *Alas and Did My Savior Bleed* LBW #98

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:3

Isaiah 53:3

³He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Passion History

Luke 23:32-38

Luke 23:32-38

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

Collect

O God of compassion and love, you have taught us through your Son that we should love one another, even our enemies. Help us to be forgiving, as we know that we are forgiven. Amen.

First candle is extinguished

Second Word

“Today you will be with me in paradise.”

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; 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.

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:12

Isaiah 53:12

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Passion History

Luke 23:39-43

Luke 23:39-43

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Collect

O Jesus, you accepted the penitence of the thief on the Cross. Hear our own sorrow in this hour, and graciously forgive us. For we ask it in your holy name. **Amen.**

Second candle is extinguished

Third Word

“Woman, here is your son... son, here is your mother.”

Hymn: Were You There **LBW #92**
(Verses 1-3)

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:10-11

Isaiah 53:10-11

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Passion History **John 19:23-27**

John 19:23-27

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵ And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Collect

Jesus, in your precious Name we bring before you our loved ones. Bless us in the duties of our home life, and lead us ever to rejoice that we are a part of your family. **Amen.**

Third candle is extinguished

Fourth Word

“My God, my God why have you forsaken me?”

Lord’s Prayer (*Whispered by congregation*)

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.

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:6

Isaiah 53:6

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Passion History

Matthew 27:45-49

Matthew 27:45-49

⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” ⁴⁸At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

Collect

Almighty God, our Father, when we are discouraged and alone, may we know your loving kindness and your tender care, and may we never forget that because of your Son we are never separated from you or from your love. For we pray in His name. **Amen.**

Fourth candle is extinguished

Fifth Word
“I am thirsty.”

Hymn: *Ah, Holy Jesus* **LBW #123**

Word of Prophecy
Isaiah 53:7

Isaiah 53:7

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

Passion History
John 19:28-29

John 19:28-29

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

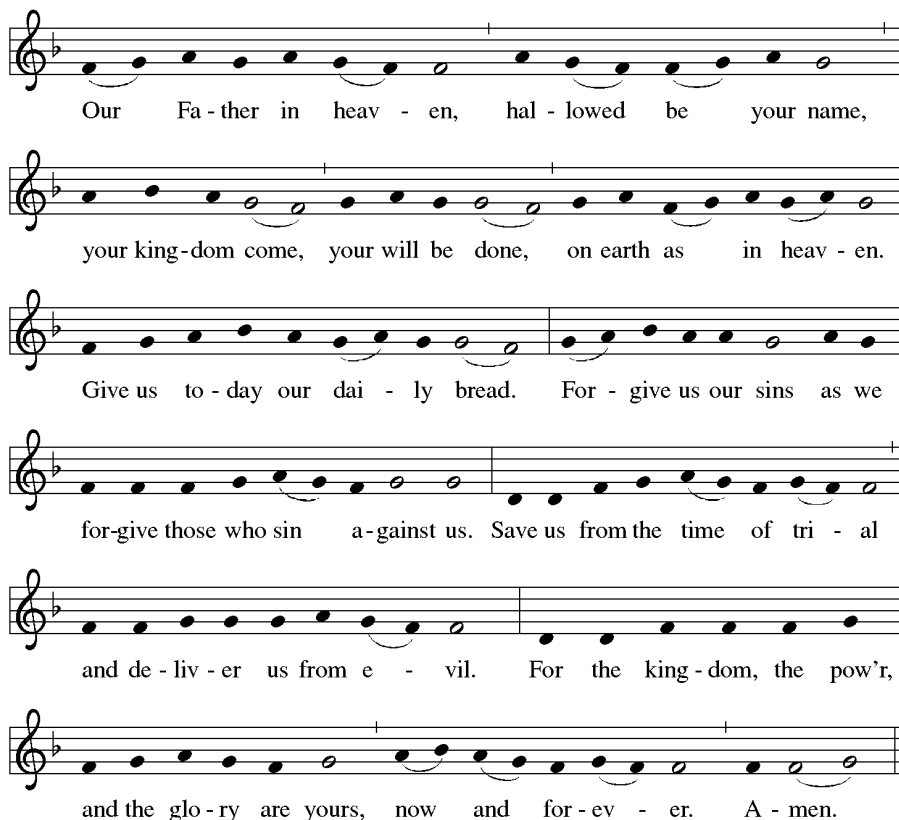
Collect

Help us, our Father, to hear the cries of all who are in need, and give us the grace to serve them in your Son’s name. Lead us also to thirst after your Kingdom and your righteousness. **Amen.**

Fifth candle is extinguished

Sixth Word
“It is finished.”

Lord's Prayer (*The choir will lead us in the sung Lord's Prayer. You are invited to sing along or follow along and pray it as you listen*)



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:4-5

Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

Passion History

John 19:30-37

John 19:30-37

³⁰ When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³² Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵ (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶ These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” ³⁷ And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

Collect

May we so live, O God, as to accept all of life’s duties with courage as we seek to follow in the footsteps of our blessed Lord. In all our tasks, may we be sustained and strengthened by you. In Jesus’ name, **Amen.**

Sixth candle is extinguished

Seventh Word

“Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit.”

Hymn: *Oh Sacred Head Now Wounded.* **LBW #117**

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:8

Isaiah 53:8

⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

Passion History

Luke 23:44-49

Luke 23:44-49

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Collect

Our Loving Heavenly Father, our days are in your hands. Help us through Jesus Christ our Lord to love and serve you always, and to trust you in all things. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. Grant us your peace. **Amen.**

Seventh Candle is extinguished

The Prophecy Fulfilled
"... they laid Jesus there."

Word of Prophecy

Isaiah 53:9

Isaiah 53:9

⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Passion History

John 19:38-42

John 19:38-42

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus.

Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Final Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who willed that your Son should bear for us the pains of the Cross, that you might remove from us the power of evil: Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion that we may continue to receive the forgiveness of our sins, and be saved from everlasting death; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final candle is left lit as the light of Hope.

Light of Hope

John 1:5-9; 3:16-17

John 1:5-9

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

John 3:16-17

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended into hell.*
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**HYMN: *Jesus Remember Me* Congregation & Choir
 (Sung 3x's)**

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
 Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
 www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SLAMMING OF THE BOOK
(To signify the closing of the tomb)

We leave in silence



*Holy Week and
Easter Services*

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28TH @ 7PM
GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH @ 7 PM
EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST
@ 7:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Access 10:30 Livestream under Connect Tab



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
holycomforter@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor - email: mkearney@holyc.org
Beka Forst, Deacon of Discipleship - email: rforst@holyc.org
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster