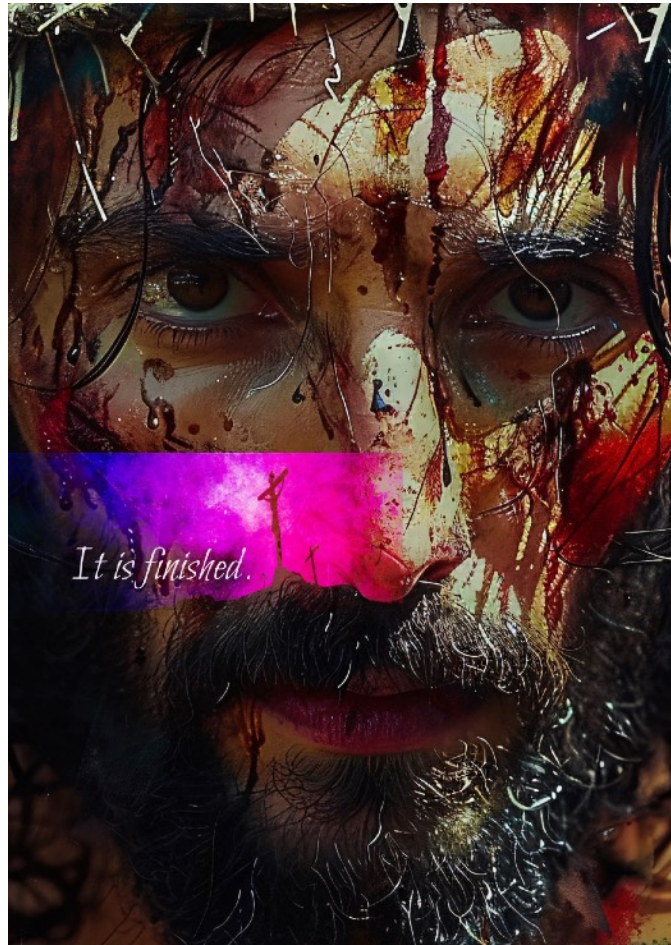


Good Friday



April 3, 2026

St. John's Lutheran Churches

stjohnslutheranjc.com

Babbtown

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Pastor: Rev. Ryan Groh
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About This Service: *The service of Tenebrae (meaning "darkness") consists of the extinguishing of the church lights. Good Friday is not observed as a funeral for Christ. It is a day of repentance over sin and restrained joy and praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross.*

(All responses are spoken)

The congregation and pastor enter in silence.

Stand

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

PSALM 27

P: The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

**C: When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.**

P: Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

**C: One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.**

P: For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

**C: And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

P: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!

**C: You have said, "Seek my face."
My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, do I seek."**

P: Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!

**C: For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
but the Lord will take me in.**

P: Teach me your way, O Lord,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

**C: Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.**

P: I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

**C: Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!**

Sit

Hymn TLH 140 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" (stz. 1)
Jesus, I will ponder now On Thy holy Passion;
With Thy Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of Thy suff'ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.

Reading: John 18:1-11 (Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 1)
O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

Reading: John 18:12-27 (Jesus before the High Priest and Denial)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 2)
Men mock and taunt and jeer Thee, Thou noble countenance,
Though mighty worlds shall fear Thee And flee before Thy glance.
How art thou pale with anguish, With scorn abuse and scorn!
How doth Thy visage languish That once was bright as morn!

Reading: John 18:28-40 (Jesus before Pilate)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 3)
Now from Thy cheeks has vanished Their color, once so fair;
From Thy red lips is banished The splendor that was there.
Grim Death, with cru-el rigor, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor, Thy strength, in this sad strife.

Reading: John 19:1-16a (Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 4)
My burden in Thy Passion, Lord, Thou hast borne for me,
For it was my transgression Which brought this woe on Thee.
I cast me down before Thee, Wrath were my rightful lot;
Have mercy, I implore Thee; Redeemer, spurn me not!

Stand

Reading: John 19:16b-24 (The Crucifixion of Jesus)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 5)
My Shepherd, now receive me; My Guardian, own me Thine.
Great blessings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts divine!
Thy lips have often fed me With words of truth and love,
Thy Spirit oft hath led me To heav'nly joys above.

Reading: John 19:25-30 (Jesus' Mother and His Death)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 6)
Here I will stand beside Thee, From Thee I will not part;
O Savior, do not chide me! When breaks Thy loving heart,
When soul and body languish In death's cold, cruel grasp,
Then, in Thy deepest anguish, Thee in mine arms I'll clasp.

Reading: John 19:31-42 (Jesus' Side Is Pierced)

Hymn TLH 172 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (stz. 7-8)
The joy can ne'er be spoken, Above all joys beside,
When in Thy body broken I thus with safety hide.
O Lord of life, desiring Thy glory now to see,
Beside Thy cross expiring, I'd breathe my soul to Thee.
What language shall I borrow To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O, make me Thine forever! And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, Outlive my love for Thee.

P: We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.

C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

P: Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is put away.

C: He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

P: We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus is the propitiation for our sins.

Sit

Hymn TLH 153 "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.
Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His?
Friends thro' fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would interpose to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that Justice gave.
Ye who think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the Sacrifice appointed, See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the WORD, the LORD'S ANOINTED, Son of Man and Son of God.
Here we have a firm foundation; Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation, His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded Who on Him their hope have built. Amen.

The Sermon

Hymn TLH 175 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (1st tune)

**When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died;
My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.**

P: Lord, have mercy.
P: Christ, have mercy.
P: Lord, have mercy.

**C: Lord, have mercy.
C: Christ, have mercy.
C: Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord’s passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The final candle is extinguished. The congregation leaves in silence with minimal light.

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn #172: Scripture: Isaiah 50:6; O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden; O Sacred Head, Now Wounded; Based on the Latin, Author: Bernard of Clairvoix, † 1153, asc.; German author: Paul Gerhardt (1656); Translation composite; Tune: Herzlich Tut Mich; Composer: Hans L. Hassler (1601).

Hymn #153; Scripture: Isaiah 53:3-5; Title: O Mein Jesu, ich muss sterben; Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted; Author: Thomas Kelly, (1804); Tune: "O mein Jesu, ich muss sterben"; Source: "Geistliche Volkslieder", Paderborn, 1850.

Hymn #175: Scripture: Galatians 6:14; When I Survey The Wondrous Cross; Author: Isaac Watts (1707, ab and alt.); Tune: Hamburg; Based on First Gregorian Chant; Arranged by Lowell Mason (1824).

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