

Welcome to Gethsemane Lutheran Church



April 3, 2026
Good Friday
Tenebrae Service



Pastor James Jennings
Preschool Director: Kim Perry
Administrative Assistant: Schawna Briney

This evening's Tenebrae service is a service of "Light to Darkness". The service features the gradual extinguishing of candles—representing Jesus' suffering and the abandonment by His disciples—leaving the congregation in total darkness. When the service is complete, lights will be brought back up to be able to see to leave the sanctuary in silence.

THE OPENING PRAYER

All: Lord Jesus Christ, as I meditate in this service on your death for me, may the love of God which shines forth from the cross impart a personal blessing, that I may both worship in spirit and truth, and be moved to sacrifice my whole life as an offering to you. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

570 Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
6 Just as I am; Thy love un-known Has bro - ken



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
ev - 'ry bar - rier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine a -



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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THE INVOCATION (*Gathering for worship in the name of God*)

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Psalm 51:1-5, 10-12, 17

- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
- C** **according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.**
- P** Wash away all my iniquity
- C** **and cleanse me from my sin.**
- P** For I know my transgressions,
- C** **and my sin is always before me.**
- P** Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
- C** **so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.**
- P** Surely I was sinful at birth,
- C** **sinful from the time my mother conceived me.**
- P** Create in me a pure heart, O God,
- C** **and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**
- P** Do not cast me from your presence
- C** **or take your Holy Spirit from me.**
- P** Restore to me the joy of your salvation
- C** **and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**
- P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
- C** **a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

“Behold the Lamb”

TH 179

**Behold the Lamb behold the Lamb
Slain from the foundation of the world
For sinners crucified O holy sacrifice
Behold the Lamb of God behold the Lamb**

**Crown Him crown Him
Worthy is the Lamb
Praise Him praise Him
Heav'n and earth resound**

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

- P** Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- All: 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 MESSAGE HYMN

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a
Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,
count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

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THE MESSAGE

Title: "The Final Stone"

THE ACCOUNT OF OUR LORD'S SUFFERING AND DEATH ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

THE FIRST READING

Matthew 26:30-46

(The first candle is extinguished.)

436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!
Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

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THE SECOND READING

Matthew 26:47-56

(The second candle is extinguished.)

449 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

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THE THIRD READING

Matthew 26:57-75

(The third candle is extinguished.)

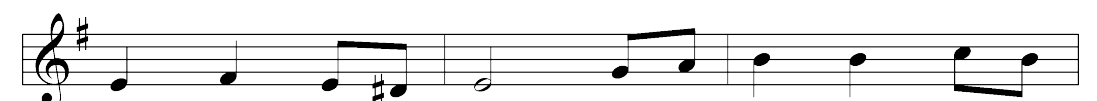
451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



1 Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.

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THE FOURTH READING

Matthew 27:1-5

(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

THE FIFTH READING

Matthew 27:6-23

(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

430 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.

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THE SIXTH READING

Matthew 27:24-31

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

THE SEVENTH READING

Matthew 27:32-44

(The seventh candle is extinguished.)

THE EIGHTH READING

Matthew 27:45-54

(The Christ candle is removed.)

THE NINTH READING

Matthew 27:57-60

(The tomb is sealed.)

“Were You There?”
Pastor James Jennings

THE KYRIE

- P** O Christ, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:
C **Have mercy upon us.**
- P** O Christ, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:
C **Have mercy upon us.**
- P** O Christ, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:
C **Grant us your peace. Amen.**

All depart in silence.

*(If you would like to remain for prayer and meditation,
please feel free to do so.)*

Please join us on Sunday, April 5, 2026 for:

7:45 a.m. Sunrise Service

9:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Easter Celebration Service

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday!

Gethsemane Lutheran Church 4040 Watonga Blvd.



Eggstravaganza!

Saturday Apr 4 @ 10-12

Join us for this free family event

 Easter Egg Hunts at 10:30 and 11:00 

 Hot Dogs and Lemonade for all 

 Cookie Decorating for kids 

 Crafts and Games 

 Photo Booth 

 + Flowering the garden Cross + 

