



# Good Friday

Complete Worship Folder  
April 18, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

## ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## Good Friday

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*Please gather in silence.*

### 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.**

### Psalm: Psalm 22 (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup> **My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;  
by night, but I find no rest.**

<sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> **Our ancestors put their trust in you,  
they trusted, and you rescued them.**

<sup>5</sup> They cried out to you and were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

<sup>6</sup> **But as for me, I am a worm and not human,  
scorned by all and despised by the people.**

<sup>7</sup> All who see me laugh me to scorn;  
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.

<sup>8</sup> **“Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver;  
let God rescue him if God so delights in him.”**

<sup>9</sup> Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,  
and kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

<sup>10</sup> **I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.**

<sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near,  
and there is no one to help.

<sup>12</sup> **Many young bulls encircle me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**

<sup>13</sup> They open wide their jaws at me,  
like a slashing and roaring lion.

<sup>14</sup> **I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

<sup>15</sup> My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the dust of death.

<sup>16</sup> **Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me;  
they pierce my hands and my feet.**

<sup>17</sup> I can count all my bones  
while they stare at me and gloat.

<sup>18</sup> **They divide my garments among them;  
for my clothing, they cast lots.**

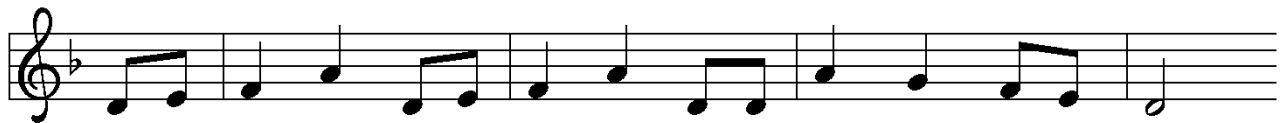
<sup>19</sup> But you, O LORD, be not far away;  
O my help, hasten to my aid.

<sup>20</sup> **Deliver me from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog.**

<sup>21</sup> Save me from the lion’s mouth!  
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

- <sup>22</sup> **I will declare your name to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**
- <sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.
- <sup>24</sup> **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;  
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**
- <sup>25</sup> From you comes my praise in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.
- <sup>26</sup> **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**
- <sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- <sup>28</sup> **For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
who rules over the nations.**
- <sup>29</sup> Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- <sup>30</sup> **Their descendants shall serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**
- <sup>31</sup> They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Gospel Acclamation: (ELW, Setting 10, page 205)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighteenth and nineteenth chapters.  
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: John 18:1-18 “Seized in the Garden at Night”

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, having prayed this prayer, left with his disciples and crossed over the brook Kidron at a place where there was a garden. He and his disciples entered it.

<sup>2-4</sup> Judas, his betrayer, knew the place because Jesus and his disciples went there often. So Judas led the way to the garden, and the Roman soldiers and police sent by the high priests and Pharisees followed. They arrived there with lanterns and torches and swords. Jesus, knowing by now everything that was imploding on him, went out and met them. He said, “Who are you after?”

They answered, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

<sup>5-6</sup> He said, “That’s me.” The soldiers recoiled, totally taken aback. Judas, his betrayer, stood out like a sore thumb.

<sup>7</sup> Jesus asked again, “Who are you after?”

They answered, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

<sup>8-9</sup> “I told you,” said Jesus, “that’s me. I’m the one. So if it’s me you’re after, let these others go.” (This validated the words in his prayer, “I didn’t lose one of those you gave.”)

<sup>10</sup> Just then Simon Peter, who was carrying a sword, pulled it from its sheath and struck the Chief Priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. Malchus was the servant’s name.

<sup>11</sup> Jesus ordered Peter, “Put back your sword. Do you think for a minute I’m not going to drink this cup the Father gave me?”

<sup>12-14</sup> Then the Roman soldiers under their commander, joined by the Jewish police, seized Jesus and tied him up. They took him first to Annas, father-in-law of Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the Chief Priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it was to their advantage that one man die for the people.

<sup>15-16</sup> Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. That other disciple was known to the Chief Priest, and so he went in with Jesus to the Chief Priest’s courtyard. Peter had to stay outside. Then the other disciple went out, spoke to the doorkeeper, and got Peter in.

<sup>17</sup> The young woman who was the doorkeeper said to Peter, “Aren’t you one of this man’s disciples?”

He said, “No, I’m not.”

<sup>18</sup> The servants and police had made a fire because of the cold and were huddled there warming themselves. Peter stood with them, trying to get warm.

*(Silence for Reflection)*

Gospel: John 18:19-27 “The Interrogation”

<sup>19-21</sup> Annas interrogated Jesus regarding his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered, “I’ve spoken openly in public. I’ve taught regularly in meeting places and the Temple, where the Jews all come together. Everything has been out in the open. I’ve said nothing in secret. So why are you treating me like a traitor? Question those who have been listening to me. They know well what I have said. My teachings have all been aboveboard.”

<sup>22</sup> When he said this, one of the policemen standing there slapped Jesus across the face, saying, “How dare you speak to the Chief Priest like that!”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, “If I’ve said something wrong, prove it. But if I’ve spoken the plain truth, why this slapping around?”

<sup>24</sup> Then Annas sent him, still tied up, to the Chief Priest Caiaphas.

<sup>25</sup> Meanwhile, Simon Peter was back at the fire, still trying to get warm. The others there said to him, “Aren’t you one of his disciples?”

He denied it, “Not me.”

<sup>26</sup> One of the Chief Priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, “Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?”

<sup>27</sup> Again, Peter denied it. Just then a rooster crowed.

*(Reflection)*

Gospel: John 18:28-40 “The King of the Jews”

<sup>28-29</sup> They led Jesus then from Caiaphas to the Roman governor’s palace. It was early morning. They themselves didn’t enter the palace because they didn’t want to be disqualified from eating the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and spoke. “What charge do you bring against this man?”

<sup>30</sup> They said, “If he hadn’t been doing something evil, do you think we’d be here bothering you?”

<sup>31-32</sup> Pilate said, “You take him. Judge him by *your* law.”

The Jews said, “We’re not allowed to kill anyone.” (This would confirm Jesus’ word indicating the way he would die.)

<sup>33</sup> Pilate went back into the palace and called for Jesus. He said, “Are you the ‘King of the Jews?’”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?”

<sup>35</sup> Pilate said, “Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?”

<sup>36</sup> “My kingdom,” said Jesus, “doesn’t consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn’t be handed over to the Jews. But I’m not that kind of king, not the world’s kind of king.”

<sup>37</sup> Then Pilate said, “So, are you a king or not?”

Jesus answered, “You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice.”

<sup>38-39</sup> Pilate said, “What is truth?”

Then he went back out to the Jews and told them, “I find nothing wrong in this man. It’s your custom that I pardon one prisoner at Passover. Do you want me to pardon the ‘King of the Jews?’”

<sup>40</sup> They shouted back, “Not this one, but Barabbas!” Barabbas was a Jewish freedom fighter.

*(Silence for Reflection)*

Gospel: John 19:1-19 “The Thorn Crown of the King”

<sup>1-3</sup> So Pilate took Jesus and had him whipped. The soldiers, having braided a crown from thorns, set it on his head, threw a purple robe over him, and approached him with, “Hail, King of the Jews!” Then they greeted him with slaps in the face.

<sup>4-5</sup> Pilate went back out again and said to them, “I present him to you, but I want you to know that I do not find him guilty of any crime.” Just then Jesus came out wearing the thorn crown and purple robe.

Pilate announced, “Here he is: the Man.”

<sup>6</sup> When the high priests and police saw him, they shouted in a frenzy, “Crucify! Crucify!”

Pilate told them, “You take him. You crucify him. I find nothing wrong with him.”

<sup>7</sup> The Jews answered, “We have a law, and by that law he must die because he claimed to be the Son of God.”

<sup>8-9</sup> When Pilate heard this, he became even more scared. He went back into the palace and said to Jesus, “Where did you come from?”

Jesus gave no answer.

<sup>10</sup> Pilate said, “You won’t talk? Don’t you know that I have the authority to pardon you, and the authority to—crucify you?”

<sup>11</sup> Jesus said, “You haven’t a shred of authority over me except what has been given you from heaven. That’s why the one who betrayed me to you has committed a far greater fault.”

<sup>12</sup> At this, Pilate tried his best to pardon him, but the Jews shouted him down: “If you pardon this man, you’re no friend of Caesar’s. Anyone setting himself up as ‘king’ defies Caesar.”

<sup>13-14</sup> When Pilate heard those words, he led Jesus outside. He sat down at the judgment seat in the area designated Stone Court (in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*). It was the preparation day for Passover. The hour was noon.

Pilate said to the Jews, “Here is your king.”

<sup>15</sup> They shouted back, “Kill him! Kill him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “I am to crucify your king?”

The high priests answered, “We have no king except Caesar.”

<sup>16-19</sup> Pilate caved in to their demand. He turned him over to be crucified.

*(Reflection)*

Gospel: John 19:20-37 “The Crucifixion”

They took Jesus away. Carrying his cross, Jesus went out to the place called Skull Hill (the name in Hebrew is *Golgotha*), where they crucified him, and with him two others, one on each side, Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote a sign and had it placed on the cross. It read:

JESUS THE NAZARENE

THE KING OF THE JEWS.

<sup>20-21</sup> Many of the Jews read the sign because the place where Jesus was crucified was right next to the city. It was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. The Jewish high priests objected. “Don’t write,” they said to Pilate, “‘The King of the Jews.’ Make it, ‘This man said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’””

<sup>22</sup> Pilate said, “What I’ve written, I’ve written.”

<sup>23-24</sup> When they crucified him, the Roman soldiers took his clothes and divided them up four ways, to each soldier a fourth. But his robe was seamless, a single piece of weaving, so they said to each other, “Let’s not tear it up. Let’s throw dice to see who gets it.” This confirmed the Scripture that said, “They divided up my clothes among them and threw dice for my coat.” (The soldiers validated the Scriptures!)

<sup>24-27</sup> While the soldiers were looking after themselves, Jesus’ mother, his aunt, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood at the foot of the cross. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her. He said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that moment the disciple accepted her as his own mother.

<sup>28</sup> Jesus, seeing that everything had been completed so that the Scripture record might also be complete, then said, “I’m thirsty.”

<sup>29-30</sup> A jug of sour wine was standing by. Someone put a sponge soaked with the wine on a javelin and lifted it to his mouth. After he took the wine, Jesus said, “It’s done . . . complete.” Bowing his head, he offered up his spirit.

<sup>31-34</sup> Then the Jews, since it was the day of Sabbath preparation, and so the bodies wouldn’t stay on the crosses over the Sabbath (it was a high holy day that year), petitioned Pilate that their legs be broken to speed death, and the bodies taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man crucified with Jesus, and then the other. When they got to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they didn’t break his legs. One of the soldiers stabbed him in the side with his spear. Blood and water gushed out.

<sup>35</sup> The eyewitness to these things has presented an accurate report. He saw it himself and is telling the truth so that you, also, will believe.

<sup>36-37</sup> These things that happened confirmed the Scripture, “Not a bone in his body was broken,” and the other Scripture that reads, “They will stare at the one they pierced.”

*(Silence for reflection)*

Gospel: John 19:38-42

<sup>38</sup> After all this, Joseph of Arimathea (he was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, because he was intimidated by the Jews) petitioned Pilate to take the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission. So Joseph came and took the body.

<sup>39-42</sup> Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, came now in broad daylight carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. They took Jesus’ body and, following the Jewish burial custom, wrapped it in linen with the spices. There was a garden near the place he was crucified, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been placed. So, because it was Sabbath preparation for the Jews and the tomb was convenient, they placed Jesus in it.

*(Silence for Reflection)*

Hymn of the Day: “Ah, Holy Jesus” (ELW 349)

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;  
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;  
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,  
God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,  
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;  
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,  
not my deserving.

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Bidding Prayer (ELW page 263)

P: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

*Silent prayer*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synodical Bishop Craig Satterlee, for Pastor Julie Bailey, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer*

A: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

*Silent prayer*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer*

A: Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

*Silent prayer*

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer*

A: Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer*

A: Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**



P: Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

*Silent prayer*

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for those in need.

*Silent prayer*

A: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

*All pray the Lord's Prayer.*

Lord's Prayer (ELW, page 318) (sung)

*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.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.*

Hymn: "Jesus, Remember Me" (ELW 616)

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
*(continuously repeat as pastor goes to back of church for the procession of the cross)*

Procession of the Cross (ELW page 264)

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of <sup>l</sup> the whole world.

**C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of <sup>l</sup> the whole world.

**C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

P: Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of <sup>l</sup> the whole world.

**C: Oh, come, let us worship him.**

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

**C: May God be merciful and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us. Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

P: We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross joy has come into the world. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**C: May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

*After a brief silence, the presiding minister continues.*

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Sending Song: “Were You There” (ELW 353)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

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*You may stay for silent contemplation and leave when you are ready.*