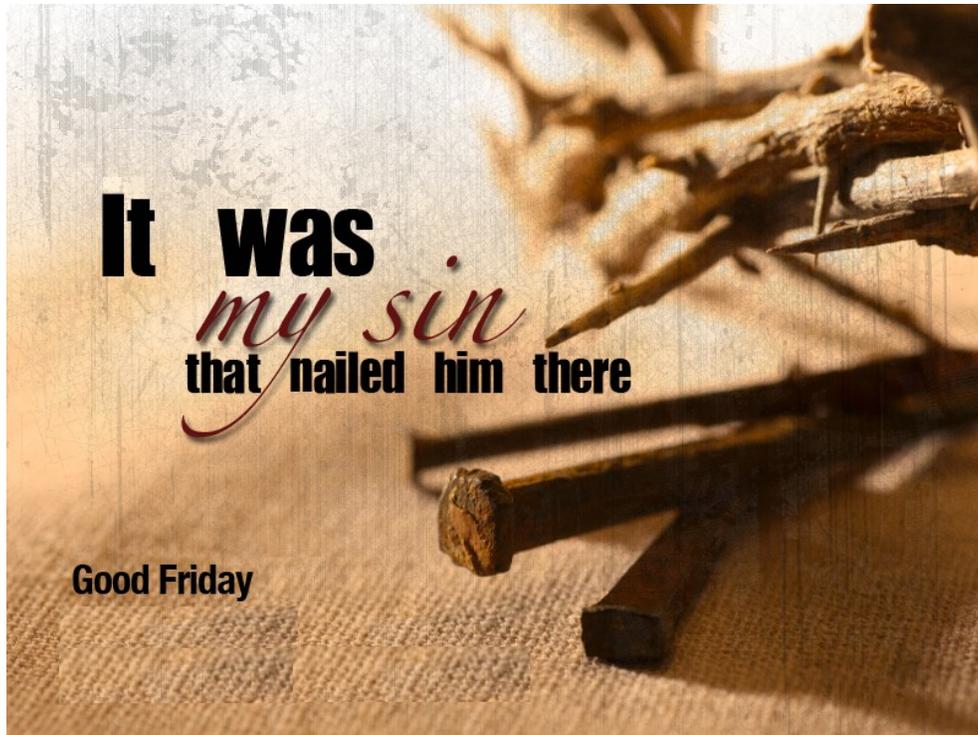


# *St. Paul's Lutheran Church*

*Good Friday*

*At The Crossroads: Death*

*April 14, 2017*



*Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister*

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## **Welcome!**

We have all come to St. Paul's by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul's. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us.

**Communion and Visitor Registration Cards** are located in the pew racks. We ask that each member and visitor complete a Communion Card when communing, and visitors complete a Visitor card. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed.

**A Nursery** is located at the rear of the sanctuary in the overflow area.

**If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance**, please signal an usher.

# Gathering

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**HYMN (ELW) 351**

**O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED**

## **OPENING RESPONSE**

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

**C Amen.**

P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

**C Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

P For you have delivered my soul from death, my feet from falling,

**C That I may walk before God in the light of life.**

P For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

**C Therefore we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P Jesus said, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

**C Lord, we come to you confessing that we find ourselves too often at the crossroads of life and death and find ourselves choosing death. We wander into the darkness that beckons. We go the way of our own imitations of life and find ourselves in the face of death. We enter tombs of our own making that we cannot seem to escape. We stand in terror of death and cannot break its grasp. Resurrecting Lord, forgive us our deadly choices and give us your strength to choose life, to go into the light that you have bought for us. Make us who celebrate the gift of life seek to share it with all those who walk with us. Fill us with the Spirit so that we might overflow with the giving that proclaims your very presence with us.**

P I have the honor and privilege, by the grace of God, of announcing to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and free—free to share the steadfast love of God with all.

**HYMN (ELW) 353**

**Were You There**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING ... ISAIAH 53:10-12**

**10** The Lord says, "It was my plan to crush him  
and cause him to suffer.  
I made his life an offering to pay for sin.  
But he will see all his children after him.  
In fact, he will continue to live.  
My plan will be brought about through him.  
**11** After he has suffered, he will see the light of life.  
And he will be satisfied.  
My godly servant will make many people godly  
because of what he will accomplish.  
He will be punished for their sins.  
**12** So I will give him a place of honor among those who are great.  
He will be rewarded just like others who win the battle.  
That's because he was willing to give his life as a sacrifice.  
He was counted among those who had committed crimes.  
He took the sins of many people on himself.  
And he gave his life for those who had done what is wrong."

**EPISTLE READING ... PHILIPPIANS 1:18-26**

**18** But what does it matter? Here is the important thing. Whether for right or wrong reasons, Christ is being preached about. That makes me very glad. And I will continue to be glad. **19** I know that you are praying for me. I also know that God will give me the Spirit of Jesus Christ to help me. So no matter what happens, I'm sure I will still be set free. **20** I completely expect and hope that I won't be ashamed in any way. I'm sure I will be brave enough. Now as always Christ will receive glory because of what happens to me. He will receive glory whether I live or die. **21** For me, life finds all its meaning in Christ. Death also has its benefits. **22** Suppose I go on living in my body. Then I will be able to carry on my work. It will bear a lot of fruit. But what should I choose? I don't know! **23** I can't decide between the two. I long to leave this world and be with Christ. That is better by far. **24** But it is more important for you that I stay alive. **25** I'm sure of this. So I know I will remain with you. And I will continue with all of you to help you grow in your faith. I will also continue to help you be joyful in what you have been taught. **26** I'm sure I will be with you again. Then you will be able to boast in Christ Jesus even more because of me.

**GOSPEL READING ... John 19:17-30**

**17** He had to carry his own cross. He went out to a place called the Skull. In the Aramaic language it was called Golgotha. **18** There they nailed Jesus to the cross. Two other men were crucified with him. One was on each side of him. Jesus was in the middle. **19** Pilate had a notice prepared. It was fastened to the cross. It read, Jesus Of Nazareth, The King Of The Jews.

**20** Many of the Jews read the sign. That's because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. And the sign was written in the Aramaic, Latin and Greek languages. **21** The chief priests of the Jews argued with Pilate. They said, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews.' Write that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

**22** Pilate answered, "I have written what I have written."

**23** When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes. They divided them into four parts. Each soldier got one part. All that was left was Jesus' long, inner robe. It did not have any seams. It was made out of one piece of cloth from top to bottom.

**24** "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's cast lots to see who will get it."

This happened so that Scripture would come true. It says, "They divided up my clothes among them.

They cast lots for what I was wearing."

So that is what the soldiers did.

**25** Jesus' mother stood near his cross. So did his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **26** Jesus saw his mother there. He also saw the disciple he loved standing nearby. Jesus said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son." **27** He said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, the disciple took her into his home. **28** Later, Jesus knew that everything had now been finished. He also knew that what Scripture said must come true. So he said, "I am thirsty." **29** A jar of wine vinegar was there. So they soaked a sponge in it. They put the sponge on the stem of a hyssop plant. Then they lifted it up to Jesus' lips. **30** After Jesus drank he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and died.."

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**HYMN (WOV) Back Cover**

**The Old Rugged Cross**

## SERMON DIALOG WITH MARIE AND TOM

### OFFERING

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### PRAYERS

Let us bring our prayers and petitions to God who hears and answers the pleas of our hearts. We pray for the nations and peoples of the world and own nation. Send your powerful Spirit into our nation and into this broken world. We ask that you come and comfort those who live in places of violence and persecution, especially those who suffer for your name. Give aid to the oppressed, the persecuted, those trapped in wars and all who cry to you for help. Guide our nation's leaders to be about the task of service to all, especially the needy and vulnerable. Make us agents of healing in this hurting world. In your mercy, **Hear us, Lord.**

We pray for your church in the world. Give faithful leaders who will shepherd your people in your way. Inspire the people of this congregation and all of the church in the world to be doers of love and service. In your mercy, **Hear us, Lord.**

Because of your dying love and living hope, Savior, give your Spirit of life and light and hope to us, so that we might truly be the "light of the world" as you have named us. In the face of death give us the light of your promise; in the face of spiritual decay give us your word of cleansing; in the face of suffering give us your word of hope. Make us agents of your good grace among the dying of the world and make us able to bless them with your promise of life now and eternally. In your mercy, **Hear us, Lord.**

We pray for the sick, the suffering, the grieving, the dying, the lonely, especially those we name in our hearts. We commit them to your loving care. Heal, help and comfort them according to your will. In your mercy, **Hear us, Lord.**

These and all other petitions and requests we bring before you in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

*The assembly joins hands to pray:*

**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.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen**

### **CLOSING READING ... JOHN 19:38-42**

#### **Jesus Is Buried**

**38** Later Joseph asked Pilate for Jesus' body. Joseph was from the town of Arimathea. He was a follower of Jesus. But he followed Jesus secretly because he was afraid of the Jewish leaders. After Pilate gave him permission, Joseph came and took the body away. **39** Nicodemus went with Joseph. He was the man who had earlier visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought some mixed spices that weighed about 75 pounds. **40** The two men took Jesus' body. They wrapped it in strips of linen cloth, along with the spices. That was the way the Jews buried people. **41** At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden. A new tomb was there. No one had ever been put in it before. **42** That day was the Jewish Preparation Day, and the tomb was nearby. So they placed Jesus there.

**ALTAR CANDLES EXTINGUISHED**

**CHRIST CANDLE REMOVED**

**(All leave the building in silence.)**