



Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Seymour, IN

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April 3, 2026

7:30 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY

TENEBRAE

April 3, 2026

Welcome to Worship! Jesus is betrayed into the hands of sinners. He is mocked while wearing a purple robe and a crown of thorns. He must carry His own cross to Golgotha, the Place of a Skull. All of this happens until the last, when “for us He gave His dying breath” (LSB 544:5). It is completed. Salvation has been won for us. It is finished; He has loved us to the end.

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THE PRELUDE: “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth” -Johann G. Walther

THE HYMN: “Go to Dark Gethsemane”

Hymn 436

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter’s pow’r;
Your Redeemer’s conflict see, Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

- 2 Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

- 3 Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

- 4 Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken Him away?
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

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THE OPENING RESPONSES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(We take a time of silence to personally confess our sins.)

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear now words of forgiveness, spoken to you, flowing from the cross: “And you, who were dead in your sins, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our sins, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.” (Col. 2:13-14). God the Father took your sins and laid them upon His Son, Jesus Christ. On the cross, Jesus triumphed over sin, death, hell, and the devil. Because of the cross, you are fully and freely forgiven!

People: Amen.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you—his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—so shall he sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand. Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for sin, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the righteous one, My servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

THE ANTHEM: "Lamb of God" -Jeff Blersch

THE EPISTLE READING: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

THE HYMN: "O Love, How Deep"

Hymn 544

- 1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake!
- 2 He sent no angel to our race, Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame, And to this world Himself He came.
- 3 For us baptized, for us He bore His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptation sharp He knew; For us the tempter overthrew.
- 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught; For us His daily works He wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus Still seeking not Himself but us.
- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed, For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death; For us He gave His dying breath.
- 6 For us He rose from death again; For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
- 7 All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad;
The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forevermore.

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THE SERMON: "His Dying Breath"

THE PRAYER

+THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE+

THE READING: John 18:1-11 (Jesus in the Garden)

Response: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Hymn 450, verse 1

(The first candle is extinguished.)

- 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.

THE READING: John 18:12-27 (Jesus denied by Peter)

Response: "Jesus I will Ponder Now" Hymn 440, verse 1

(The second candle is extinguished.)

- 1 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.

THE READING: John 18:28-19:16 (Jesus before Pilate)

Response: "Upon the Cross Extended" Hymn 453, verse 1

(The third candle is extinguished)

- 1 Upon the cross extended See, world, your Lord suspended.
Your Savior yields His breath. The Prince of Life from heaven
Himself has freely given To shame and blows and bitter death.

THE READING: John 19:16b-22 (Jesus Goes to Calvary)

Response: "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" Hymn 451, verse 1

(The fourth candle is extinguished)

- 1 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.

THE READING: John 19:23-25a (Jesus is crucified)

Response: "On My Heart Imprint Your Image" Hymn 422

(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

THE READING: John 19:25b-30 (Jesus gives up His spirit)

Response: "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" Hymn 434, verse 1

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

1 Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

THE PROMISE: Isaiah 53:9-12 (Assigned a grave with rich)

He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death, though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. Yet it was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life a guilt offering, He will see His offspring and after the suffering of His soul, He will see the light (of life) and be satisfied; by His knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The seventh candle is extinguished, and the Christ Candle is removed to signify the burying of Christ. The Strepitus is heard to signify the closing and sealing of the tomb.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Whispered in unison)

(The Christ Candle is returned, to show God's continuing presence. We leave in silence but will return with joy to celebrate Christ's resurrection Sunday at 6:30, 9, and 11:15 a.m.)

Preacher: Pastor Philip E. Bloch **Lector:** Vicar Max Johnston
Liturgists: Pastor William G. Fredstrom & Pastor Ralph Blomenberg
Organist: Mr. Paul Scheiderer **Adult & Youth Choir**

<p>7:30 p.m. Ushers: Joe Brooks, Dennis Klinge, Matt Pumphrey, Mackenzie Pumphrey, Jeff Schneider, Larry Stahl, Mike Stuckwisch, Max Whitsett, Kameron Williams, Mason Williams, Jeremiah Clay Counting: Jerrell Hubbard, Max Siefker, Kyle Stanfield, Rick Zschiedrich, Grant Hubbard, Skylar Prange Audio/Video: Kelly Luecke</p>
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