

Welcome

We are glad that you have joined us for worship.

April 3, 2026

WORSHIP THEME

Service of the
Seven Words

Pastor Brian Roloff





Reflection Song

**The Day the Earth Held
Up the Sky**

(Choir)

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Seek the Lord while he may be found;

C: Call on him while he is near.

P: Let the wicked forsake his way

C: And the evil man his thoughts.

P: Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have
mercy on him,

C: And to our God, for he will freely pardon.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in humble awe and solemn trembling, your people have gathered around your cross to remember your death. Here we see all the ugliness, horror, misery, and hell that you suffered in our place. You give us a glimpse of your agony and your steadfast resolve to save us in the prophetic words of Psalm 22:

P: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

C: Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

P: O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,

C: by night, and am not silent.

P: Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;
you are the praise of Israel.

**C: In you our fathers put their trust; they
trusted and you delivered them.**

P: I am a worm and not a man.

**C: Scorned by men and despised by the
people.**

P: All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

C: “He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.”

P: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.

C: My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.

P: My strength is dried up, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

C: you lay me in the dust of death.

P: A band of evil men has encircled me.

C: They have pierced my hands and my feet.

P: They divide my garments among them

C: and cast lots for my clothing.

P: But you, O Lord, be not far off;

C: O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

P: I will declare your name to my brothers;
C: in the congregation I will praise you.

P: For he has not despised or disdained the
suffering of the afflicted one;
**C: he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.**

PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, do not let our hearts be overcome by grief and despair, but help us believe we are worth so much to you. Open our eyes to see that by your death you destroyed death, by your sacrifice you reconciled us with your Father, and by the blood you shed you purchased us to belong to you forever.

P: Fill us with the joy and peace of believing we are truly free from condemnation and forgiven by our Father in heaven. Help us dedicate our lives in thankful love to you, who gave yourself for us.

C: Amen.



The First Word

Luke 23:26-27, 32-34

As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals –one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.1)

Their nails were freshly driven,
their hatred clearly shown,
when, “Let them be forgiven,”
was heard at heaven’s throne.

Your enemies, O Jesus,
you loved beyond degree,
a love so pure and precious
it even pardoned me.



Silence for Reflection



The Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.” The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.””

Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.2)

On you, my King, depending,
I'm rid of all my sins!
My final day here ending,
my first in heav'n begins.
As you have truly spoken,
in paradise I'll be,
with you in bliss unbroken—
you will remember me.



Silence for Reflection



The Third Word

John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.3)

A Savior like no other,
all self-concern denied,
you served your grieving mother
while you were crucified.
My sin had made me filthy,
but you, the prefect child,
were designated guilty,
and I am reconciled.



Silence for Reflection



The Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45-49

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*”—which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.”

Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.4)

Condemned, cut off, forsaken,
outside the Father's care,
by terror overtaken,
no ear would hear your prayer.
On you God's wrath was vented,
on you his fury fell,
when, on the cross tormented,
you took my place in hell.



**Silence for
Reflection**



The Fifth Word

John 19:28-29

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips.



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.5)

My Lord, in death's dark valley,
both soul and body drained,
one drink would help you rally
what little strength remained
to raise your voice in vict'ry
to sound your foe's defeat—
the highest point in hist'ry—
my rescue was complete.



Silence for Reflection



The Sixth Word

John 19:30a

When he had received the drink, Jesus
said, “It is finished.”



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.6)

Though sin's most lethal wages
to me, O Christ, were due,
the guilt of all the ages
came crashing down on you.
Most surely, "It is finished"-
my debt is fully paid;
my joy is undiminished;
my heart is unafraid.



Silence for Reflection



The Seventh Word

Luke 23:45b-47

The curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”



MEDITATION

HYMN: #436 The Seven Words (v.7)

My death will be triumphant
no matter how I die;
Lord Jesus, in the instant
escort my soul on high
into my Father's keeping,
all blameless and all blest,
like waking up from sleeping,
his hands my place of rest.



Silence for Reflection

LORD'S PRAYER: (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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



*It is
finished!*

Connection Card



Please take a moment and fill out the info on the connection card, located under the Worship Today button on our app or on our website. There is a tablet in entryway or scan the QR code. Please fill out and submit.

Thanks for Serving

- + Pianist: Marcia Michalik
- + Choir
- + AV Team
- + Flock #2 – Mike Tripp

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