



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

April 18, 2025 ✝ Good Friday

Welcome to worship on this very solemn night of Good Friday. This is the night we remember most profoundly that Jesus is our Savior, who died on the cross to reunite us with God and one another. God loves us enough to not only forgive us, but to give us life in place of death.

✝ GATHERING ✝

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.

Liturgy reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 15447-LIT. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Other liturgy reprinted with permission from Creative Communications for the Parish. All rights reserved.



Confession & Forgiveness

Like sheep we have gone astray, we gather around the mercy of God, the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

It was our rebellion that sent Jesus to the cross.

It was the blameless Son of God who took our blame to Calvary.

Still our gracious God invites us to bring all our sins to him and be forgiven.

Hear us God, as we confess our sins and beg for your forgiveness.

Silence for meditation and self-examination.

Good and gracious God,
when temptation has come our way, our flesh has been weak.

**We have lived in ways that deny Jesus
and declare, "I do not know him."**

**We have left your holy paths of righteousness
and fled from what is right.**

We have mocked Jesus with our sinful actions and hurtful words.

The consequences of our sin cause us to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

Freely and willingly, Jesus gave his life for you on the cross.

Graciously and lovingly, Jesus forgives you of all your sins.

Patiently and constantly, Jesus makes all things new through his death on the cross

and his victory over death through the empty tomb.

Friends, in the name and by the power of Jesus, you are forgiven!

Amen. What a friend we have in Jesus.



Opening Hymn

Were You There

#353



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual
Music: African American spiritual Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress
Public Domain

Call to Worship

He was despised and rejected by humanity.
A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

Surely he has borne our griefs.
And carried our sorrows.

He was pierced for our transgressions.
He was crushed for our iniquities.

Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace.
And with his wounds, we are healed.

What a friend we have in Jesus.
All our sins and griefs to bear!

The Greeting

The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ Jesus,
bears our burdens and saves us from sin, be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*
Lord Jesus,
your sacrifice for us causes us to tremble.
Though we were not there, in a way, we were.
We were there at the cross
because our sin is what drove you to the cross.
We were there at the cross
because God's wayward children needed to be redeemed.
You were there at the cross because you are our friend.
For this, Jesus, we love you and love to be called your friends.
Amen.

Kyrie

Were You There

Bell Choir

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading

Isaiah 53:1-6

There is no way to make this less extreme: Jesus suffered mightily on our behalf. Through his death, Jesus bore our suffering. Through his crucifixion he took our punishment.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²For 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,
 nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by others;
 a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
 and as one from whom others hide their faces
 he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;
 yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;
 upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
 and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
 we have all turned to our own way,
 and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Titus 3:4-7

God saves us not because of what we do. Rather, God is a God of mercy and salvation who graciously cleanses us in baptism and renews our lives through the Holy Spirit.

A reading from Titus.

⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Lenten Verse

ELW setting 4



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



Holy Gospel

John 19:17-30

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 19th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Savior

Hymn of the Day

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

#351



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite
 Music: German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750
 Public Domain

Apostle's Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

P Standing at the foot of the cross,
we tremble to think of all that our Savior has done for us.
Coming before our God in prayer, we tremble to think of
what a privilege it is to carry everything to God in prayer.
Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ,
and for God's holy church throughout the world.

A brief silence.

A 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

P 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.

Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

A 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

P 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

A 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

P 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.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

A Almighty and eternal God,
you welcome your saints to eternal rest at your side.
We sing in thanksgiving for all the faithful departed
and entrust them to your care,
until we join them in the life everlasting.
Precious Lord, **hear our prayer.**

P We bring all our worries and concerns, all our doubts and fears,
all our praise and thanksgiving to the foot of the cross,
knowing that there it is received and finished, because it is there
that we find Jesus, our Servant, Savior, and Friend. **Amen.**

The Adoration of the Cross

Behold, the life-giving cross
on which was hung the salvation of the world.
Oh, come, let us worship him.

Behold, the life-giving cross
on which was hung the salvation of the world.
Oh, come, let us worship him.

Behold, the life-giving cross
on which was hung the salvation of the world.
Oh, come, let us worship him.

Our Procession to the Life-Giving Cross of Jesus

Tonight, you are invited forward to receive a simple nail.
The nail, on this night of all nights, has special significance.
It is our Christian belief that Jesus was nailed to the cross
not only by the soldiers who were assigned to do that awful deed;
not only by the Pharisees and the crowd
who would not rest until he had been nailed there;
not only by Pontius Pilate, who issued the order that nailed him there...
but also by each and every one of us.
Since he died for our sins, we too are responsible for his death.

The purpose of the nail is to give each of us the opportunity,
if you wish, to receive the sign of Jesus' holy cross
and then receive the nail from the cross in your hands.
When you are ready, come forward and receive the sign of the cross.

*(The pastor/vicar will make the sign of the cross on each forehead
and then place the nail in each person's hands)*

Hymn

The Old Rugged Cross

(TFF #77)



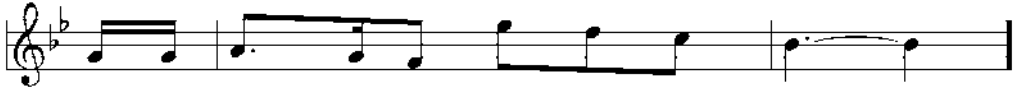
1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross.
2 Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,
3 In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
4 To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,



the em - blem of sul - f'ring and shame;
has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;
a won - drous beau - ty I see;
its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;



and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,
for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,
Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,



for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
to bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.



So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my



tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged



cross, and ex - change it some day for a crown.

Text & Music: George Bennard, 1873-1958
Public Domain

The Solemn Recessional

(The Christ Candle is carried out of the sanctuary as the chancel lights are turned off.)

Jesus was wounded for our transgressions.

He was bruised for our iniquities.

Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole.

By his death we are healed.

Thanks be to God for the Old Rugged Cross of Jesus.

Greater love has no man than this,

than to lay down his life for his friends.

We have no glory, except in the cross of our Lord, Jesus.

Thanks be to God for the Old Rugged Cross of Jesus.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

Thanks be to God for the Old Rugged Cross of Jesus.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.**

The Strepitus, a harsh noise indicating the closing of the tomb, is sounded.

The Paschal Candle is returned as a sign of Hope.

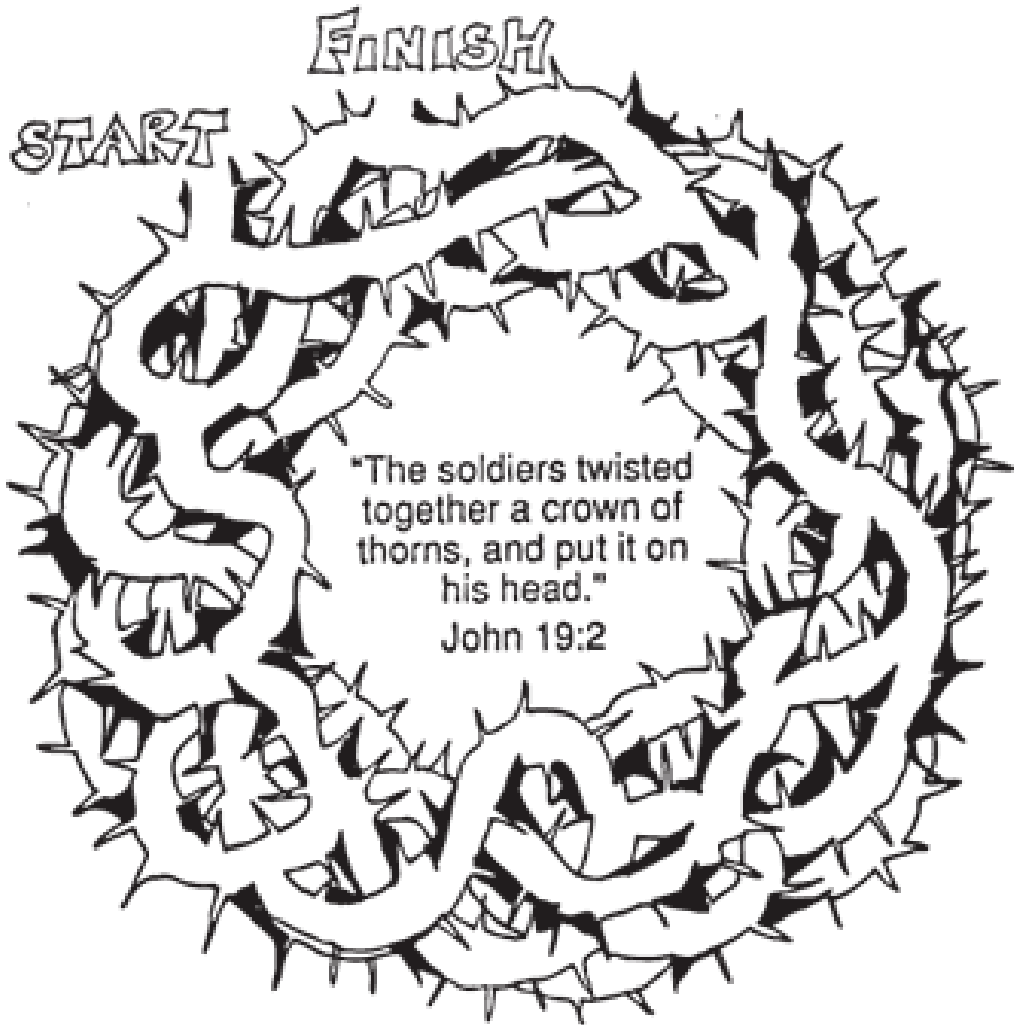
*There is no benediction; the congregation leaves the church in silence.
This signifies the fact that the service – and the story – are not finished,
but will be completed on Easter morning.*

*You are welcome to stay as long as you like.
When you are ready to leave, please do so in silence.*



Crown of Thorns Maze

Use a crayon or pencil to find your way through the crown of thorns.



Good Friday Word Search

				R	P	H	T	A	E	D				
				O	R	S	O	N	A	R				
				I	A	M	A	S	D	A				
				V	Y	M	D	C	E	C				
				A	E	R	I	S	R	S				
				S	O	T	A	O	U	I				
Y	L	O	H	W	A	D	S	I	T	N	F	L	O	G
N	N	T	H	E	U	S	P	I	R	I	T	I	L	T
I	E	E	B	J	E	S	U	S	O	R	Y	R	C	N
G	A	R	D	E	N	D	G	E	T	Z	E	P	I	E
H	I	D	E	H	S	I	N	I	F	S	I	T	I	L
T	L	A	S	T	O	S	A	A	Y	L	K	R	A	D
				F	L	C	H	H	A	M				
				O	D	I	D	T	D	B				
				G	I	P	E	O	I	E				
				N	E	L	I	G	R	T				
				I	R	E	F	L	F	R				
				K	S	S	I	O	D	A				
				N	R	F	C	G	O	Y				
				E	E	N	U	L	O	E				
				V	H	A	R	E	G	D				
				E	T	I	C	V	R	O				
				S	A	L	R	O	B	O				
				I	F	S	L	L	O	W				

Beat
 Betrayed
 Cross
 Crucified
 Cry
 Dark Night
 Death
 Deny
 Disciples
 Father
 Flog
 Garden
 Gethsemane
 God
 Golgotha
 Good Friday
 Hang
 Holy Spirit
 It is finished
 Jesus
 Judas
 King of the Jews
 Lent
 Life
 Lord
 Love
 Nails
 Pilate
 Pray
 Sacrifice
 Savior
 Scar
 Seven Last Words
 Sin
 Soldiers
 Son
 Tortured
 Wood

