



*Good Friday Service  
The Seven Last Words of Christ  
April 18, 2025*



*Prelude*

*Welcome*

*Call to Worship*

Leader: Christ carried in his own body on the cross the sins we committed.

**People: He did this so that we might live in righteousness, having nothing to do with sin.**

Leader: By his wounds, we are healed. **Amen**

*Choral Anthem: "Gethsemane" Robert Graham*



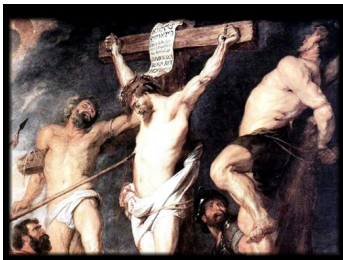
### 1. FORGIVE

"Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.'] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'" *Luke 23:32-38*

*Prayer*

"Savior of the world, what have you done to deserve this? And what have we done to deserve you? Strung up between criminals, cursed and spat upon, you wait for death, and look for us, for us whose sin has crucified you. To the mystery of underserved suffering, you bring the deeper mystery of unmerited love. Forgive us for not knowing what we have done; open our eyes to what we are doing now, as, through wood and nails, you transform us by your grace." Amen.

*\*Hymn # 85 "What Wondrous Love Is This" vs. 1-3*



### 2. PARADISE

"One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'" *Luke 23:39-43*

*Prayer*

Lord Jesus, remember us, we pray; remember us now, today, and remember us when you come into the fullness of your kingdom. Thank you for the encouragement of your response to the thief on the cross: the promise of paradise, the promise of your presence—that we will be with you forever and that you will never forget or forsake us. Amen.

*Hymn #599 "Jesus, Remember Me"*



### 3. *Here Is Your Mother*

“Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.”  
*John 19:25b-27*

#### *Prayer*

Thank you, Lord God, for the good work that Jesus was performing even on the cross, creating a new community of love—the church; a community bound together by the saving blood of Jesus, transcending all the barriers of race, of culture, of language—one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth. May we be true to Jesus’ good work on the cross, loving and caring for one another in your church, whoever the brother or sister in Christ may be. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

*Choral Anthem: “Lenten Song” Mark Hayes*



### 4. *FORSAKEN*

“From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, ‘Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?’ that is, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”  
*Matthew 27:45-46*

#### *Prayer*

“Lord Jesus, by your cry of desperate honesty, rid us of superficial faith which is afraid of the dark. Not so that we might be justified pessimists, but so that we might discover profound joy; give us, when we need it, the courage to doubt, to rage, to question, to rail against heaven until we know we are heard. We do not ask for easy answers to hard times; there are many who can offer these. We ask for a sense of your solidarity, that will be enough to let us know that we do not walk or cry alone; that will enable us to go through the dark and find light again in the morning. Amen.”

*Hymn #98 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” vs. 1-3*



### 5. *THIRST*

“After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), I am thirsty.’ A 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.”  
*John 19:28-29*

#### *Prayer*

O God! It breaks our hearts to think of the suffering and torment that Jesus went through on the cross. Jesus, the Living Water, suffering thirst—for us. Jesus, the Righteous One, suffering the pangs of hell—for us. May we on this day, again and again drink deeply from the well of living water that began to flow when Jesus’ blood was shed and his body was broken, so that our lives may be refreshed even unto life eternal. Amen.

*Hymn “As the Deer” vs. 1 and chorus*



## 6. FINISHED

"When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

*John 19:30*

### *Prayer*

Lord God, with Jesus' work finished, accomplished, completed on the cross, what is left for us but to give ourselves in gratitude to you? And so we give ourselves to you, Lord—body and soul, all that we are, all that we have—as a living sacrifice of praise. Into your hands we commit our spirits and our lives. Receive us, accept this offering in the name of Jesus.

*\*Hymn #101 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" vs. 1 & 2*



## 7. COMMIT

"It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed

him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things."

*Luke 23:44-49*

### *Prayer*

Almighty God, You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all... Into your hands, O God We commit, we commend, your servant Jesus. Acknowledge, we humbly pray, Your own son. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, Into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, And into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

*Matthew 27:45-46*

*Solo "Were You There?"*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Dismissal in Silence*

**\*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

*MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC*

*ORGANIST: JONATHAN LEFEVER*

*SOLOIST: DR. JEFFREY MARTIN*

*A/V: Ken Osborne and Mark Anderson*

### **Credits: ~ Art work**

Front cover ~ Mikayla Ruth Reed

Christ Crucified, John Petts

Pieta, Michaelangelo

Mary's Tears, detail from Descent from the Cross, Rogier van der Weyden

Christ on the Cross, Peter Paul Rubens

Solar Eclipse from Mount Santa Lucia, Carleton Watkins