

Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers

April 10, 2020



There is no procession or opening hymn as the Good Friday Service is a continuation of the “Triduum”, or “Three Days” service that began on Maundy Thursday and likewise continues into Easter Morning.

Opening Versicles

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
G and my mouth will declare Your praise.
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
G make haste to help me, O Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Psalm

Psalm 51

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;*
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,*
and cleanse me from my sin!
³For I know my transgressions,*
and my sin is ever before me.
⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,*
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.
⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,*
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
⁶Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,*
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;*
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
⁸Let me hear joy and gladness,*
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
⁹Hide your face from my sins,*
and blot out all my iniquities.
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,*
and renew a right spirit within me.

- ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,*
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
- ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,*
and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,*
and sinners will return to you.
- ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,
O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,*
and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;*,
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
- ¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;*,
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
- ¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;*,
build up the walls of Jerusalem;
- ¹⁹then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;*,
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John, the 19th chapter.

Passion Reading

John 19:1-11

¹Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." ⁸When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The first candle is extinguished

436 Go To Dark Gethsemene – Stanza 1

Reading

John 19:12-16

¹²From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." ¹³So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth

hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus,

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The second candle is extinguished

436 Go To Dark Gethsemene – Stanza 2

Reading

John 19:17–22

¹⁷and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The third candle is extinguished

436 Go To Dark Gethsemene – Stanza 3

Reading

John 19:23–27

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be."

This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵but standing by 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 nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The fourth candle is extinguished

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded – Stanza 1

Stand

Reading

John 19:28–30

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” ²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The fifth candle is extinguished

Sit

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded – Stanza 2

LSB 450 st. 6

Reading

John 19:31–37

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³²So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” ³⁷And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded – Stanza 3

Passion Reading

John 19:38–42

³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn: 437 Alas and did My Savior Bleed

Sermon

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

- C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Amen.

Bidding Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

- A** Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

- C** 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.

Following the prayers and a long silence, the strepitus is heard. The strepitus is a loud noise that signifies the death of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross.

Following the strepitus, the final candle is extinguished.