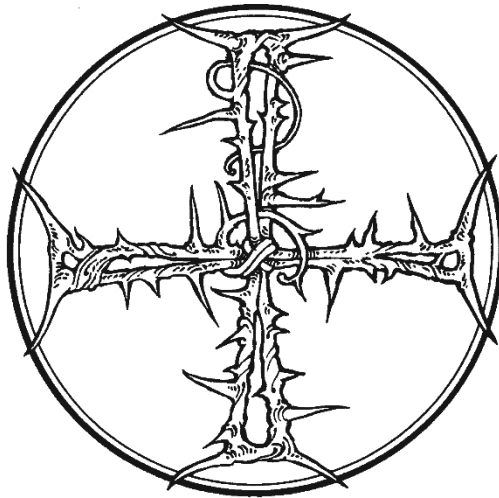


Good Friday Stations of the Cross



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lebanon, MO
18 April 2025

The Invocation

L: In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Versicles

L: Return to the Lord, your God for He is gracious and merciful:

C: slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

L: Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

C: let him deny himself and take up the cross and follow Me.

L: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C: He was bruised for our iniquities. (*Joel 2:13, Matt 16:24, Isaiah 53:5*)

The Vesper Collect

L: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C: Amen.

The Versicle

L: It behooves us to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: In whom is our salvation, life, and resurrection.

The Preparatory Prayer

L: The Lord be with you.

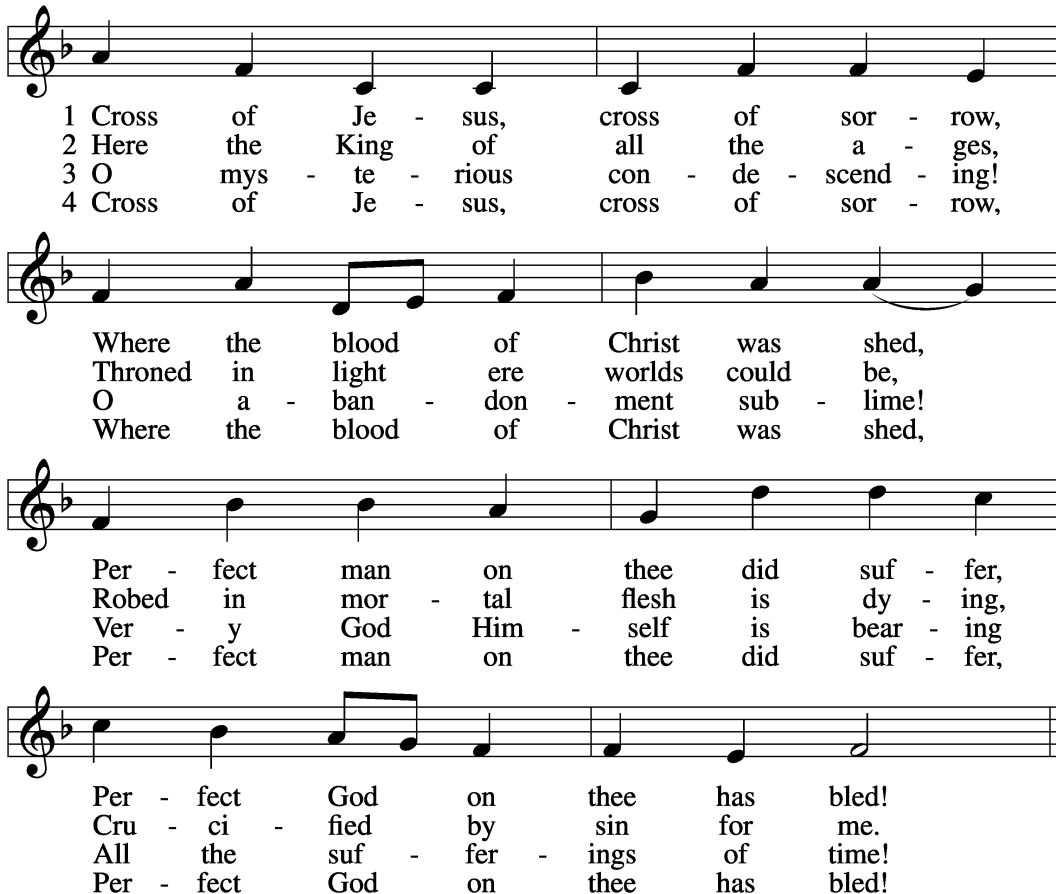
C: And with your spirit.

L: Dear God, bless our contemplation this night of Your Son's passion. Impress upon us, yet again, the depth of our sin that required the suffering and death of Jesus. Awaken our love for You by seeing Your love for us. Give us a perpetual confidence in Your unmerited mercy so that nothing would hinder our prayer and praise to You as our heavenly Father.

C: Amen.

Hymn

Cross of Jesus LSB #428



1 Cross of the Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
 2 Here the King of the a - ges,
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,

Where the blood of Christ was shed,
 Throned in light ere worlds could be,
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,

Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing,
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,

Per - fect God on thee has bled!
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!



The First Station Peter Denies Jesus

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Luke 22:54-62

Meditation by Charles Spurgeon

“What was the reason why Peter thus sinned? I answer, first, that it was because of his fear of man. Bold Peter became an arrant coward. And, ah! how many have denied their Master because they have been afraid of a jest or a jeer! ...Perhaps the chief reason for Peter’s denial of his Lord was his confidence in himself. If Peter had felt himself to be weaker, he would really have been stronger; but, because he felt so strong in himself, therefore he proved to be weak as water, and so denied his Master...Those of you, who have abundance of life in you, and plenty of force of character, must mind that you have also the force of grace, lest your [strength]... should become your ruin in the time of trial. He is well kept whom God keeps...”

L: All of us like sheep have gone astray. Each of us has turned to his own way.

C: But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him.

Collect

L: Let us pray

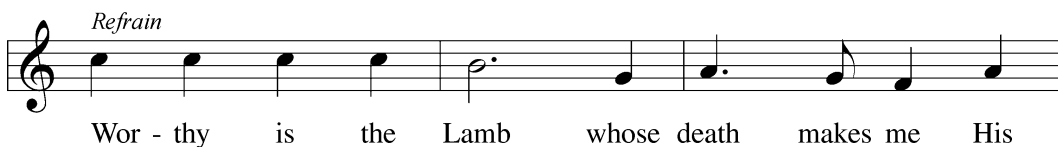
C: O holy Jesus, we bless You and adore You for You endured the betrayal of closest friends for us. Yet, in Your great love, You turned Peter's denial to fidelity; his weakness to strength; his sin into an occasion for mercy. Have mercy on us for all our unfaithful moments and turn us to confess Your name with boldness. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us

547 The Lamb

sts. 1, ref, 2



Text and tune: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953-2023

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The Second Station Jesus Condemned by the Sanhedrin

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Mark 14:60-65

Meditation by Bo Giertz

“The strange thing is that this judgment, the most unjustified verdict ever given on earth, was at the same time the most completely just verdict ever given. Jesus kept secret something that the high priests knew nothing about--He carried the sins of the whole world. He took the burden of guilt for the whole world upon Himself and made it His own. From where He stood, in front of His accusers, He was responsible for their sins also, for their envy and lust for power, their deceit and heartlessness. He took upon Himself all the trespasses of everyone in the past, in the present, and in the future. That sin warranted death. Without knowing it, Caiaphas sentenced his own sin, and all our sin, to the punishment that since the beginning of time had been waiting to deal with the wickedness and the selfishness that said no to God's love: that death must die.”

L: The Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

C: For the transgression of His people He has stricken Him.

Collect

L: Let us pray.

C: O Christ, You became sin for us who knew no sin so that we might become the righteousness of God. You were declared guilty that we may be declared innocent. Keep us in this blessed pardon until our life's end when we will see You face to face. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us

430 My Song Is Love Unknown

sts. 1-3



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.



**The Third Station
Jesus Judged by Pontius Pilate**

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:13-25

Meditation by Nils Laache

“But who, who are the evildoers? And where are they found? You think of Caiaphas and Pilate. Yes, but they are closer to us than that. I think you know who they are. Look yourself in the mirror, soul! Indeed Jesus is standing in your place. It is your filthy rags He is wearing, your sentence that falls on Him. But more and more see in His humiliation, God's indescribable and immeasurable love for us men, and learn what salvation awaits all who believe in Him!”

L: Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried.

C: Yet we considered Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

Collect

L: Let us pray:

C: O Jesus, who was despised by the world and found guilty by guilty men, help us that we may love Your approval more than we fear the condemnation of sinful people. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us!

439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

sts. 1, 4

1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!

That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;

Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants

fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
owe Him, Who would not know Him.



The Fourth Station Simon of Cyrene Carries the Cross

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:26-27

Meditation by Johann Gerhard

“We are made like unto Christ through tribulation...Thus, we must follow Him upon the way of cross and tribulation. How could it make any sense if Christ had to hang on the cross and you wanted to constantly live in happiness? Would you be wanting to have your Paradise in this life, even though Christ had to suffer so much adversity here? Certainly not! Instead, let it be dear to you that you are made like unto Christ through tribulation. If He sanctified our Baptism by His Baptism, then He also has sanctified our cross and tribulation with His cross and tribulation. That's why the true believers' suffering and adversity is called a cross, because they bear it after the crucified Christ just as Simon of Cyrene did. Confidently follow after; Christ is carrying the heaviest portion.”

L: He Himself bore the sins of many.

C: And interceded for the transgressors.

Collect

L: Let us pray:

C: O beloved Jesus, who, for us men and for our salvation, bore the weight of our sins upon Your back, grant that we may have the grace to crucify this sinful flesh and take up our cross daily and follow You. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us!

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con-science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.



The Fifth Station Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:33-38

Meditation by Martin Luther

“For every nail that pierces Christ, more than one hundred thousand should in justice pierce you, yes, they should prick you forever and ever more painfully! When Christ is tortured by nails penetrating His hands and feet, you should eternally suffer the pain they inflict and the pain of even more cruel nails, which will in truth be the lot of those who do not avail themselves of Christ’s passion.” Once one understands this then they can see Jesus’, “friendly heart and how this heart beats with such love for you that it impels Him to bear with pain your conscience and your sin.”

L: They have pierced My hands and My feet.

C: I can count all My bones, people stare and gloat over me.

Collect

L: Let us pray:

C: O Jesus, teach us to meditate on Your crucifixion aright. Instruct our hearts to despise our sin that caused Your wounds, and enlighten us that we may see Your great compassion for us, O friend of sinners. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us!

The Reproaches

L: Thus says the Lord, O my people, what have I done to thee? Wherein have I afflicted thee? Answer me!

L: I led thee out of the land of Egypt, but thou hast prepared a crown of thorns for thy Savior.

C: O Holy God! O Holy Mighty One! O Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.

L: I led thee out through the desert forty years: and fed thee with manna, and brought thee into a land exceeding good, but thou hast prepared a Cross for thy Savior.

C: O Holy God! O Holy Mighty One! O Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.

L: What more ought I have done for thee, that I have not done? I planted thee, indeed, My most beautiful vineyard: and thou hast become exceeding bitter to Me: for in My thirst thou gavest Me vinegar to drink: and with a lance thou hast pierced the side of thy Savior.

C: O Holy God! O Holy Mighty One! O Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.

L: O My people, what have I done to thee? Wherein have I afflicted thee? Answer me.

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

sts. 1-2, 7



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!
7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
How doth Thy face now lan-guish That once was bright as morn!
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!
Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
Mine eyes shall then be-hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
My heart by faith en-fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

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Tune: Public domain



The Sixth Station Jesus Dies

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

John 19:31-37

Meditation from Burnell Eckardt Jr.

“Jesus here has fallen asleep in death, His side is pierced, and out pours blood and water. Thus Jesus takes His place as the Second Adam. Remember now the first Adam, how he had likewise fallen into a deep sleep, and out of his side came a bone, from which God fashioned the woman, Eve. But Jesus is greater than Adam, and therefore not a bone, but blood and water come out of Jesus' side. For blood and water, and not bones, are the elements of life. And as the element from the first Adam's side produced the first bride, so now the elements from the Greater Adam's side produce the greater Bride, which is the Church. For these elements the blood and water of Christ are the very elements we find in the blessed Sacraments.”

L: He was cut off from the land of the living.

C: For the transgression of My people He was stricken.

Collect

L: Let us pray:

C: O Jesus, who died for me on the cross, in that death is all my hope. Be merciful to me, and to all Christians, that in the hour of death we may not fall away from You but ever hold fast to Your cross, receiving the crown of glory which You have bought for us with Your precious blood. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us!

451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

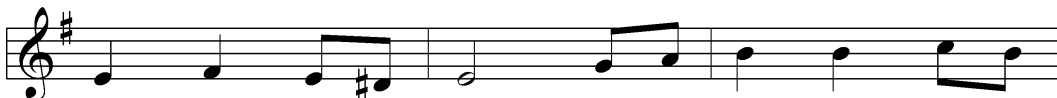
sts. 1, 3-4



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
 3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
 4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
 lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed
 guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
 wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
 ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.



The Seventh Station Our Lord Entombed

L: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: Because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:50-56

Meditation from David Scaer

“Burials do mean that something has come to an end, but more importantly, they are steps in God's plan of salvation for the followers of Jesus. The God who created us body and soul and again recreated us in Baptism is, by our own burials, preparing us for the resurrection from the dead. The dead are sown like seeds into the earth, so that at the dawning of the Resurrection sun they might spring forth into eternal life. "If we die with Him, we shall also reign with Him." Every baptized Christian has already been buried with Christ, and every burial is a Baptism into His life. Paul said this: "We are buried with Christ by Baptism into His death, that even as God raised Him from the dead, we should walk in newness of life."

L: You will not leave My soul in Sheol:

C: Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Collect

L: Let us pray:

C: O Jesus, who lay in death's strong bands and rested on the Great Sabbath day after Your labors, dwell within my heart so that coming at last to the end of my labors I may rest eternally with You. Amen.

L: Lord Jesus, crucified,

C: Have mercy on us!

425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a

Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

(stand)

The Apostles' Creed

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

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

L: Lord, Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed by 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.

(sit)

Streptitus

The Nave will be darkened. The Christ candle is taken out of the sanctuary. There will be a loud bang to indicate the closing of the tomb. The Christ candle will be brought back out in expectation of the resurrection.

Please Leave in quiet contemplation

Join us for The Feast of the Resurrection

6:30AM – Sunrise service followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast. See Trinity's Facebook page for details.

9:00AM – Late service

Art Credits:

- Station 1 – Pensionante Dei Saraceni (active Rome 1610-1620), Vatican.va
Station 2 – Illuminated manuscript by Nicola da Bologna (1370), Vatican Library
Station 3 – Picture Bible illustration by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794-1872)
Station 4 – Friedrich Overbeck (1789-1869), water color on board, Vatican Museum
Station 5 - Friedrich Overbeck (1789-1869), water color on board, Vatican Museum
Station 6 – Christ on the Cross, by Carl Heinrich Bloch, wiki public domain
Station 7 – Descent from the Cross (1617) Peter Paul Rubens, wiki, creative commons CC

Authors of Meditations:

- Meditation 1 – Charles Spurgeon (1834 - 1892), known as the “prince of preachers”, he started and pastored the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London and began institutions such as a seminary and orphanage. Meditation from spurgeon.org.
Meditation 2 – Bo Giertz (1949 – 1970), Lutheran, author and pastor and Bishop in the Lutheran Church of Sweden. Meditation from “To Live with Christ”, p. 257.
Meditation 3 – Nils Laache (1831 – 1892), pastor and bishop in the Lutheran Church of Norway. Meditation from “Book of Family Prayer”, p. 223.
Meditation 4 – Johann Gerhard, (1582 – 1637), extraordinary German Lutheran theologian, professor Univ Jena. Meditation from “Postilla: An Explanation of the Sunday and Most Important Festival Gospels of the Whole Year”, Vol 1, p. 389.
Meditation 5 – Martin Luther (1483 - 1546), priest, professor, and father of the Reformation. Meditation from “A Meditation on Christ’s Passion”, Luther’s Works, vol 42, p.9f.
Meditation 6 – Burnell Eckardt Jr – current pastor in the LCMS and editor in chief of Gottestdienst magazine. Meditation from “Every Day I Will Bless Thee”, p. 179.
Meditation 7 – David Scaer (b. 1936), pastor in the LCMS and professor Emeritus of Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne, IN. Meditation from “In Christ, The Collected Works of David P. Scaer” vol 1, p. 126.

Reproaches adapted “Popule Meus” (O, My People), Tomas de Victoria (1548-1611)