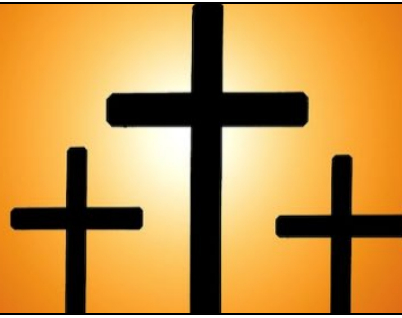


Good Friday
April 7, 2023 – 12 Noon
The Way of the Cross



The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day, but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life. In the ancient bidding prayer we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died. The offering will be received at the door as you leave the sanctuary, or by giving online at <https://www.sjlc.com/give>.

As a sign of repentance as we leave the house of God, worshipers may come forward at the close of the service and place a nail (available at the sanctuary doors) into the cross. By doing so, we confess and acknowledge that it was our sin which nailed Jesus to the cross.



We gather in silence

Please silence or turn off all mobile phones and electronic devices.

Gathering Hymn

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (LSB 449)
(go to last page)

Opening Sentences

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

L We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C **Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

P He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him;

C **And with his stripes we are healed.**

L All we like sheep have gone astray;

C **And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Passion Reading

Matthew 27:45-56

P A reading from the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷ And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." ⁴⁸ And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. ⁵¹ And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵² The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" ⁵⁵ There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, ⁵⁶ among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

P The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Meditation

"Precious Treasures –Wood"

The congregation is invited to meditate on each station as these appear on the screens in the Sanctuary.

I. Jesus In Gethsemane

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: Mark 14:32-42

Hymn

Kneel-ing in the gar-den grass, Je-sus groans a-
gainst his death, Let this cup of sor-row pass, while he prays in
that same breath: Not my will but yours be done.

II. Jesus Is Condemned To Death

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: Mark 14:60-65

Hymn

While the court and priests con-spire how to slant the
ev-i-dence, Je-sus calm-ly bears their ire as his prayer grows
more in-tense: Not my will but yours be done.

III. Jesus Accepts His Cross

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

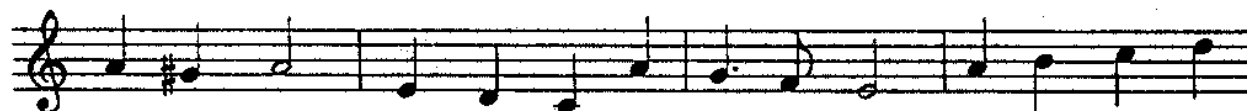
C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: John 19:14-17

Hymn



When the mas - sive cross of wood bends and bruis - es



Je - sus' frame, hear him seek e - ter - nal good as he prays in



Yah - weh's name: Not my will but yours be done.

IV. Jesus Meets His Mother

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: John 19:25-27

Hymn



Je - sus reads in Mar - y's eyes all the sor - row



moth - ers bear, and he prays his friend sup - plies grace to strength - en



her own prayer: Not my will but yours be done.

V. Jesus Falls

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: Isaiah 53:1-7

Hymn



Je - sus falls be - neath the weight of the cross he's



forced to bear, yet its load of sin and hate does not crush his



hope and prayer: Not my will but yours be done.

VI. Jesus Is Nailed To The Cross

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: Luke 23:33-34

Hymn



While the sol - diers throw their dice they ig - nore their



vic - tim's groans, lost to them the sac - ri - fice and the prayer that



Je - sus moans: Not my will but yours be done.

VII. Jesus Dies On The Cross

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: Matthew 27:45-50

Hymn



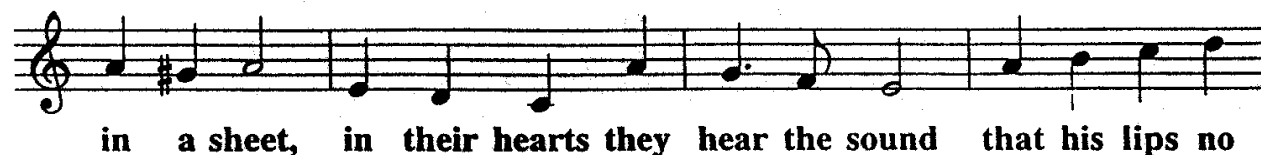
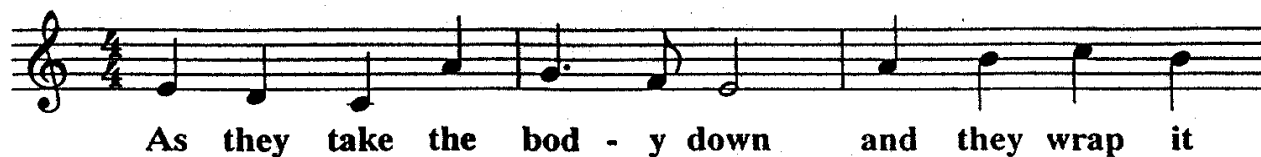
VIII. Jesus Is Taken Down From The Cross

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: John 19:31-37

Hymn



IX. Jesus Is Buried

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Scripture: John 19:38-42

Hymn



Qui-et is the hol-owed cave. Peace and tears and grief de-scend.



Mourn-ers of-fer at the grave what they learned from



Christ their friend: Not my will but yours be done.

X. Resurrection

P We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you.

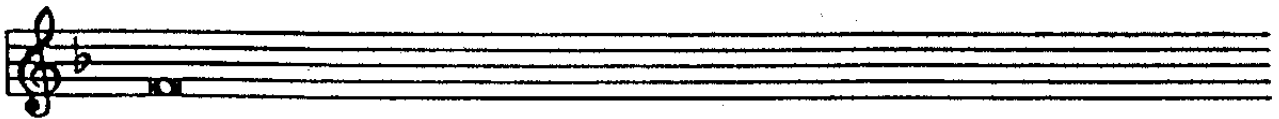
C Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Versicle and Response

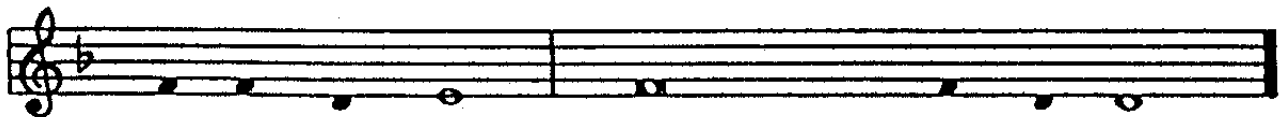
A large cross is carried in procession through the church and placed before the congregation.

The congregation stands and turns to face the cross as it is brought forward.

The following response is sung three times: as the procession begins, at the halfway point, and as the procession ends.



P Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation



of the whole world. **C** Oh, come, let us wor-ship him.

Please kneel or be seated, as you are able

- L** Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:

Silent prayer

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- L** Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God:

Silent prayer

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- L** Let us pray for our catechumens, that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord:

Silent prayer

- P** Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

Silent prayer

P O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially Joseph, our President; the Congress of the United States; Glenn, our Governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, deliver from violence and bloodshed, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:

Silent prayer

P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

Silent prayer

P Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:

Silent prayer

P Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

Silent prayer

P O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:

Silent prayer

P O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L Finally, let us pray for all 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.

Tolling Bell

Those who desire may come forward to offer a sign of reverence, such as touching the cross, kneeling briefly, or placing a nail in the cross. You are invited to remain after the worship service and spend time in prayer. Please depart in silence.



Holy Saturday
April 8

The Great Vigil of Easter is one of the most beautiful and moving services of the entire year. We light the new fire of Easter outside, process into the darkened Sanctuary for the service of readings, celebrate Holy Baptism, and conclude with receiving the risen Savior in the Lord's Supper in the Easter Vigil service which begins at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday
April 9

Festival Worship for the Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday, will be celebrated with two worship services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. A brass ensemble will provide glorious music to lead us in singing praises to our risen Lord Jesus Christ. For those unable to attend, the 10:30 a.m. service will be live streamed.

Between the two worship services an Easter Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall and an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to the age of 12 will begin.

On Easter Sunday, remember to bring spring flowers to "flower" the cross located in the church entrance!



Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Lay Assistant	Barbara Pate
Director of Music	David Leahey
Cross Bearer	Ben Steine
AV Operator	Greg Auld Greer Putnam



Please visit our website at www.sjlc.com for devotional readings for use in the week ahead or to learn more about our life together as a congregation.

St. John's Lutheran Church · 5952 Franconia Road · Alexandria, VA 22310
703-971-2210



Acknowledgments

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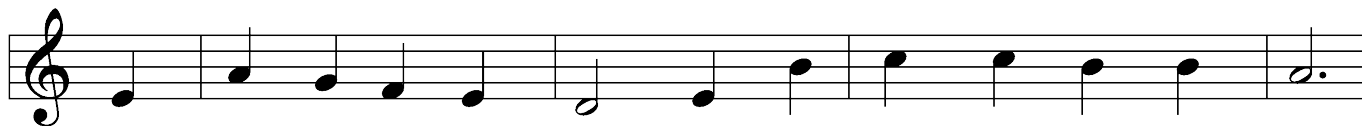
The Way of the Cross/Kneeling in the Garden Grass, Tune: William P. Rowan, © 1995, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: Thomas H. Troeger, ©1993, Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" (LSB 449)



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
4 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.
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
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!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,
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.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.
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. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318. Tune: Public domain