

**AND THE SOLDIERS  
TWISTED TOGETHER  
A CROWN OF THORNS  
AND PUT IT ON HIS  
HEAD AND ARRAYED  
HIM IN A PURPLE ROBE.**

**JOHN 19:2, ESV**

**SERVING TODAY**

**Presiding:** ..... Rev. Jan Mills  
**Cantor:** ..... Alan Hair  
**Reader:** ..... Danielle Mariano  
**Acolyte:** ..... Anna Keeler  
**Livestream:** ..... Kirk Sponaugle

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**You are Welcome Here!**

***Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God's love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ's teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.***



**The Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of the Holy Trinity**  
Cocoa and Granada Avenues  
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033  
(717) 533-2467

**Friday, April 18, 2025  
Good Friday 7:00PM**

*Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, let us pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ’s death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we gather is indeed a tree of life.*

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*Let us prepare for Worship.*

**GATHERING PRELUDE:**

*Sing, My Tongue* ..... Plainsong mode III, Vatican Collection  
*Amazing Love* ..... Graham Kendrick  
*At the Foot of the Cross* ..... Derek Bond

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**P:** Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, 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.

**All: Amen.**

**ISAIAH 52:13 – 53:12**

<sup>13</sup>See, my servant shall prosper;  
he shall be exalted and lifted up,  
and shall be very high.

<sup>14</sup>Just as there were many who were astonished at him  
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of mortals—

<sup>15</sup>so he shall startle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which had not been told them they shall see,  
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

<sup>53:1</sup>Who has believed what we have heard?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>For 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.

<sup>3</sup>He 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.

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

<sup>5</sup>But 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.

<sup>6</sup>All 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.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By a perversion of justice he was taken away.  
Who could have imagined his future?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.

<sup>9</sup>They made his grave with the wicked  
and his tomb with the rich,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.  
When you make his life an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

<sup>11</sup>Out of his anguish he shall see light;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.  
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;  
because he poured out himself to death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;  
 2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,  
 4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,

let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.  
 bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
 but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.  
 nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.

Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish  
 make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,  
 For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;  
 May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,

of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.  
 how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.  
 this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
 that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
 Music: JESU KREUZ, LEIDEN UND PEIN, Melchior Vulpus, 1570–1615

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The congregation stands for the announcing of the Gospel saying:*

P: Look to Jesus,

All: **who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

*As we listen to the reading from John's gospel, we are invited to ponder the sufferings and death of Jesus by hearing again the events that lead to his passion. Candles will be extinguished during the reading symbolizing the darkness that surrounds the deep sorrow and sacrifice of Jesus until he breaths his last.*

John 18:1-11

**All Sing Refrain:**

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

John 18:12-27 *(Repeat Refrain)*

John 18:28-40 *(Repeat Refrain)*

John 19:1-16a *(Repeat Refrain)*

John 19:16b-22 *(Repeat Refrain)*

John 19:23-30 *(Repeat Refrain)*

John 19:31-42 *(Repeat Refrain)*

## THE BIDDING PRAYER

*On this solemn day we use the ancient Bidding Prayer, offering petitions for the whole world for which Christ died. Since the third century, Christians have gathered on Good Friday at the foot of the cross and there prayed the great intercessions. It is as if the cross is in the center of all things, and as we stand with Mary and John at the cross, the bidding prayer opens us up to ever-widening circles of concern. In these intercessions we ask God to look with mercy on every person and thing in the cosmos.*

*Silence is observed after each bid.*

Let us pray for the church throughout the world. . .

Let us pray for our bishops Elizabeth and James, our pastor Jan, our staff Alan, Peter, Karen, Elizabeth, Anita, Colleen, Stephanie, Peg and all servants of the church. . .

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism. . .

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God. . .

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. . .

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. . .

Let us pray for God's creation. . .

Let us pray for those who serve in public office. . .

Let us pray for those in any need, especially. . .

Finally, let us pray as our Lord taught us. . .

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

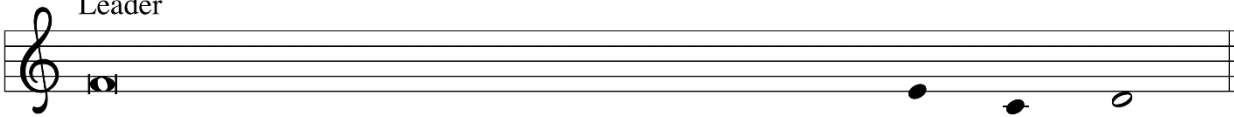
## PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

*We see the solemn procession of the cross, which has become for us the instrument of God's victory. The procession of the cross has been practiced since the 4th century. The cross is really a picture of Jesus' love for us. Although we may feel sad about Jesus' death, we know that this is not the end of the story.*

*The following dialog is sung three times, as a rough-hewn cross is carried to the front of the church.*

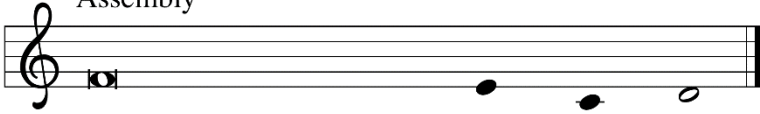
**Behold the Life-Giving Cross**

Leader



Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the world.

Assembly



Oh, come, let us wor - ship him.

*A period of silence is kept for adoration of the Crucified and meditation on the mystery of redemption. During the singing and the silence that follows, those who desire may come forward to offer a sign of reverence, such as touching the cross, kneeling briefly, or bowing. You are encouraged to remain in the church for prayer, meditation, and adoration of Christ, the crucified.*

**MUSIC FOR REFLECTION AND ADORATION:**

*Holy God, Holy and Glorious* ..... Anne Krentz Organ

**SENDING HYMN: *Holy God, Holy and Glorious* ..... ELW 637**



1 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and glo - ri - ous,  
 2 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and pow - er - ful,  
 3 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and beau - ti - ful,  
 4 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and on - ly wise,  
 5 Ho - ly God, ho - ly and liv - ing one,



glo - ry most sub - lime, you come as one a - mong us  
 pow - er with - out peer, you bend to us in weak - ness;  
 beau - ty un - sur - passed, you are de - spised, re - ject - ed;  
 wis - dom of great price, you choose the way of fol - ly:  
 life that nev - er ends, you show your love by dy - ing,



in - to hu - man time, and we be - hold your glo - ry.  
 emp - tied, you draw near, and we be - hold your pow - er.  
 scorned, you hold us fast, and we be - hold your beau - ty.  
 God the cru - ci - fied, and we be - hold your wis - dom.  
 dy - ing for your friends, and we be - hold you liv - ing.

*We depart this night in silence.*