

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Crucifixion of Our Lord



Good Friday
12:00pm April 3, 2026

We begin this service in silence as Good Friday continues our worship from Maundy Thursday. We worship through the Triduum; the Three Days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil. Together, they are one continuous worship service, each retelling the central events of the last days of Jesus' life and the mystery of God's salvation through Christ.

The Service of Tenebrae (which means "darkness" or "shadows") is a Holy Week devotion which dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. and is characterized by the successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses.

SILENT PROCESSIONAL

DEPARTURE TO THE GARDEN

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347

1 Go to dark Geth-se-m - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
 your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.

ARREST

HYMN

Lamb of God

ELW #336

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have
 sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and
 sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.
 God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me
 in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

TRIAL 1

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347



2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;



oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!



Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

TRIAL 2

ANTHEM

He Was Alone

Theodore Paxson

Matt Weissenbuehler, baritone

In the garden he knelt down to pray.

The olive trees were faithful to him, keeping watch; those whom he loved had fallen asleep.

"Father, if it be thy will, let this cup pass from me. None the less, thy will not mine, be done."

All the flowers were closed; the birds were quiet, fast asleep. He was alone.

BEATING

HYMN

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

ELW #337



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov - 'reign die?
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way: 'tis all that I can do.

STRIPPING THE ALTAR

Psalm 22

LEADING JESUS TO GOLGATHA

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

Please stand as you are able, and face the center aisle as the cross is carried in.

JESUS ON THE CROSS

REVERENCING THE CROSS

Matt Weissenbuehler, baritone

Nearer the Cross

Larry Shackley

*Nearer the cross, my heart can say, I am coming nearer.
Nearer the cross from day to day, I am coming nearer.
Nearer the cross where Jesus died, nearer the fountain's crimson tide,
Nearer my Savior's wounded side, I am coming nearer.
Nearer the Christian's mercy seat, I am coming nearer.
Feasting my soul on manna sweet, I am coming nearer.
Stronger in faith, more clear I see Jesus, who gave himself for me,
Nearer to him I still would be, still I'm coming nearer.
Nearer in prayer my hope aspires, I am coming nearer.
Deeper the love my soul desires, I am coming nearer.
Nearer the end of toil and care, nearer the joy I long to share,
Nearer the cross I soon shall wear, I am coming nearer the cross.*

TENEBRAE

(7 Last Words of Christ)

READING

Luke 23:32-38

Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

HYMN

Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW #339



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

READING

John 19:25b-27

Woman, here is your son. Here is your mother.

HYMN

Oh, Love, How Deep

ELW #322

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er
 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 or of low - er place, but wore the robe of
 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.

READING

John 19:28-29

I am thirsty.

ANTHEM

And Can It Be?

Dan Forrest

Matt Weissenbuehler, baritone

*And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?
 And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
 Died he for e who caused his pain? For me who him to death pursued?
 Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 He left his Father's throne above, so free, so infinite his grace;
 Emptied himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race;
 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For O, my God, it found out me.
 No condemnation now I dread; Jesus and all in him is mine!
 Alive in him, my living head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
 Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown through Christ my own.
 Amazing live, how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?*

READING

Luke 23:39-43

Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

HYMN

Jesus, Remember Me (sung repeatedly)

ELW #616

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.
 Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

READING

Mark 15:33-35

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW #349



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.

READING

Luke 23:44-46a

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW #351



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;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.

READING

John 19:30
It is finished.

ORGAN REFLECTION

HYMN

Were You There

ELW #353



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

THE BURIAL

Mark 15:42-47

Please stand and face the Paschal Candle as it recesses.

HYMN

Were You There

***Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?***

The congregation leaves in silence.

Holy Week at Bethany:

Journey with Jesus

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Palm Sunday 3/29

8:30am and 10am

Festival Worship with
Palms

The Crucifixion of Our Lord

Good Friday 4/3

12pm Tenebrae Service

7pm Tenebrae Service

Dubios' Seven Last Words

The Last Supper

Maundy Thursday 4/2

7pm Worship Service

First Communion Milestone

Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter Saturday 4/4, 5pm

Easter Sunday 4/5

8am, 9:30am, 11am

Festival Worship Service

We invite you to join Bethany's Holy Week worship services as we walk with Jesus through his final days. Each service adds a new part of the story, drawing us deeper into the mercy God gives in Christ. Come and follow the story step by step, so that Easter might meet you not as an idea, but as God's promise for you.