

**Reformation Lutheran Church**

April 3, 2026 | 7:30 pm

Good Friday

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from 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. Today’s liturgy culminates in the Easter Vigil tomorrow evening.

[All gather in silence.]

## Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

## Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Hymn 324



The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn: "In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing / When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -". The second staff contains the second line: "o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of / ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the". The third staff contains the third line: "sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime. / cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy." The music consists of a single melodic line in treble clef.

In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

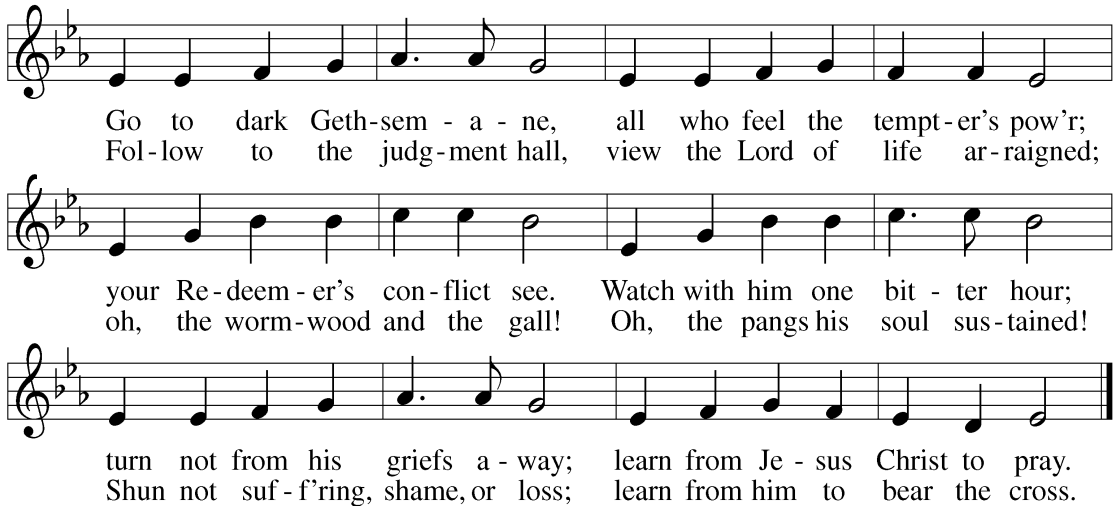
# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 1: John 18:1-11

## Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Hymn 347



Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf-f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

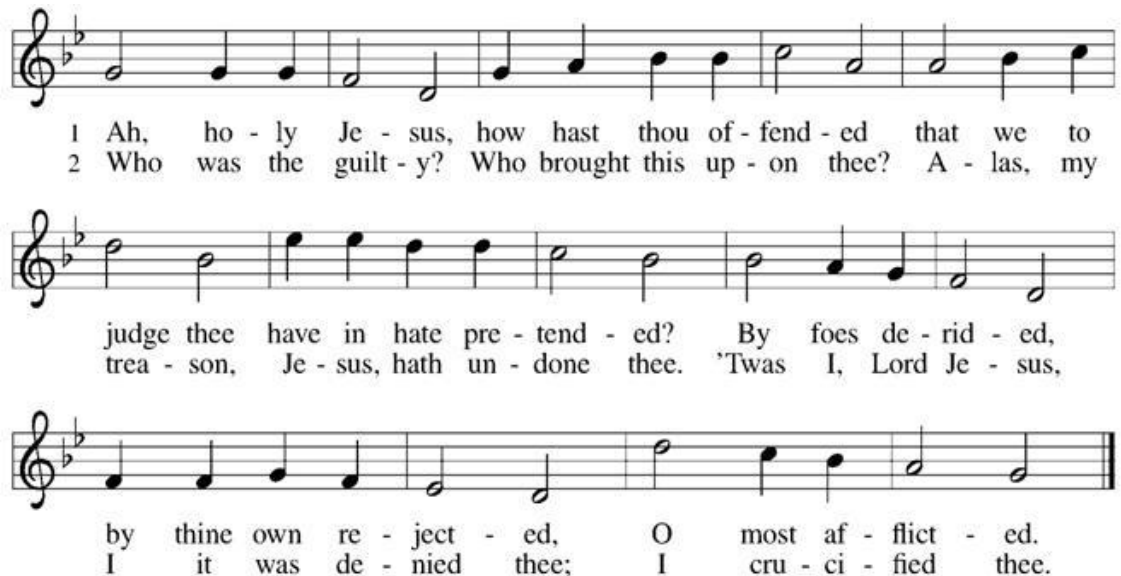
# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 2: John 18:12-17

## Hymn

Ah, Holy Jesus

Hymn 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.

# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 3: John 18:18-38a

## Hymn

In the Hour of Trial

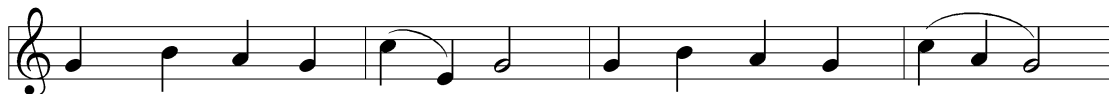
Hymn 106 (LBW)



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me,  
3 Should thy mer - cy send me sor - row, toil, and woe,



lest by base de - ni - al I de - part from thee.  
or should pain at - tend me on my path be - low,



When thou seest me wa - ver, with a look re - call;  
grant that I may nev - er fail thy hand to see;



nor from fear or fa - vor suf - fer me to fall.  
grant that I may ev - er cast my care on thee.

# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John Part 4: John 18:38b - 19:16a

Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Hymn 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.

# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 5: John 19:16b-25a

## Hymn

## Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Hymn 338



Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.

# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 6: John 19:25b-30

## Hymn

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Hymn 337



A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov - 'reign die?  
Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?  
Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un - known, and love be - yond de - gree!  
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.

# The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John

Part 7: John 19:31-42

## Hymn

Were You There?

Hymn 353



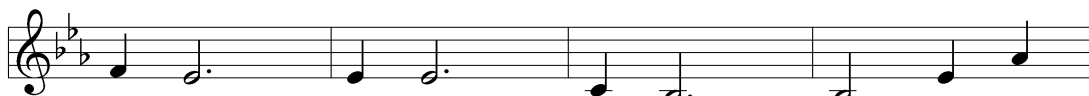
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh! some-times it caus - es me to



trem-ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you



there when they laid him in the tomb?

[Silence for prayer and meditation.]

## The Bidding Prayer

Let us pray . . .

[after each prayer]

. . . We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

**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.**

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

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

**[Silence for meditation on the mystery of the crucified Savior,  
the mystery of redemption.]**

## Adoration of the Crucified Christ

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross joy has come into the world.

**May God be merciful and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us. Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross joy has come into the world.

**Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.**

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and we praise your holy resurrection, for by your cross joy has come into the world.

[All stand and sing, proclaiming the triumph of the cross.]

Hymn

Sing, My Tongue

Hymn 118 (LBW)



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; sing the end - ing  
 2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness of the ap - point - ed  
 3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, he went forth from  
 4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, be for all the  
 5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry; to the Fa - ther



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the troph - y,  
 time was come, he, the Word, was born of wom - an,  
 Naz - a - reth, des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,  
 no - blest tree; none in fo - liage, none in blos - som,  
 and the Son, to the e - ter - nal Spir - it hon - or



sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; tell how Christ, the world's re -  
 left for us his Fa - ther's home, blazed the path of true o -  
 did his work, and met his death; like a lamb he hum - bly  
 none in fruit your e - qual be; sym - bol of the world's re -  
 now and ev - er - more be done; praise and glo - ry in the



deem - er, as a vic - tim won the day.  
 be - dience, shone as light a - midst the gloom.  
 yield - ed on the cross his dy - ing breath.  
 demp - tion, for your bur - den makes us free.  
 high - est, while the time - less a - ges run.

[The assembly is seated.]

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

[The ministers leave in silence.]

Please remain as long as you wish to be in prayer with the Lord this night.

When you are ready to leave, do so in silence, respecting those who remain in prayer.

The omission of benedictions at the end of the liturgies of both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday indicate their continuity with each other and with the Vigil of Easter, one celebration of the paschal mystery of our redemption.]

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## **The Great Vigil of Easter**

Saturday, April 4

7:30 pm

## **Festival Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day**

Sunday, April 5

6:15 am “Sonrise” service in the Pavilion

8:30 & 11:00 am in the sanctuary and online

(no Sunday School classes will be held)

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