

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Series: “EXPERIENCING LENT”



“Experiencing Death”

GOOD FRIDAY

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

209 Broad Street, Anderson, SC 29621

The Reverend J. Chris Fischer, Pastor

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Good Friday

April 18, 2025

12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

Gather in Silence

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn

“Were You There”

Hymn # 353

*Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading – Isaiah 52:13-53:12

¹³ See, my servant shall prosper;

he shall be exalted and lifted up
and shall be very high.

¹⁴ 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—

¹⁵ 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.

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

² 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.

³ 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.

- ⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases,
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ 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.
- ⁶ 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.
- ⁷ 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.
- ⁸ 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.
- ⁹ 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.
- ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with affliction.
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.
- ¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹² 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.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:1-18 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

² **O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.**

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ **In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**

⁵ To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶ **But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.**

⁷ All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸ **“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”**

⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

¹⁰ **On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**

¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹² **Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

¹³ they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴ **I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;**

¹⁵ my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ **For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;**

¹⁷ I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸ **they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.**

Second Reading – Hebrews 10:16-25

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”

¹⁷ he also adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

[we stand]

***Gospel – John 19:28-42**

The gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 19th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁸ After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³² Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵ (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he

knows that he tells the truth, so that you also may continue to believe.)³⁶ These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.”³⁷ And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”³⁸ After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body.³⁹ Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.⁴¹ Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid.⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Message **“Experiencing Death”**

(k) **Bidding Prayer** (*The Bidding Prayer has long been a tradition of the Church on Good Friday.*)

The minister concludes each petition with “... through Christ our Lord,” and the congregation responds “**Amen.**”

(k) **The Lord’s Prayer (Traditional Version)**

**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.**

TENEBRAE

The word Tenebrae means shadows or darkness. Today you will hear the Seven Last Words of Christ as His life was passing on the cross. The seven lit candles will be extinguished one at a time and the lights in the Sanctuary gradually lowered one at a time, as each of the Seven Last Words are spoken.

Anthem: ***“Return to the Lord, Your God”*** Brenda McGowan

Verse 1

Return to the Lord, your God
For He is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger and abiding in steadfast love,
And relenting from punishment.
He gave us Jesus.
And Jesus submitted to His will.

The Seven Last Words

(As each word is spoken, there will be silence for a time for meditation, then a candle is extinguished.)

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

“Today you will be with me in Paradise.”

“Woman, behold your Son... Behold your mother.”

“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”

“I thirst.”

“Father, into Your hands, I commit my spirit.”

“It is finished.”

Return to the Lord (Choir)

Verse 1 Return to the Lord, your God
 For He is gracious and merciful,
 Slow to anger and abiding in steadfast love,
 And relenting from punishment.
 He gave us Jesus.
 And Jesus submitted to His will.

Verse 2 Create in me a clean heart, oh Lord
 Show me your way, Teach me your path,
 And put a right spirit within me.

Responsive verse *“Return to the Lord Your God”*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of staves. The first system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The vocal line lyrics are: "Re - turn ___ to the Lord, Re turn." The piano accompaniment line lyrics are: "Re - turn ___ to the Lord ___ Re - turn." The second system is a piano accompaniment for the right hand (treble clef) and left hand (bass clef). The third system is also a piano accompaniment for the right hand (treble clef) and left hand (bass clef). The score includes repeat signs and a final double bar line.

Candles and Prayers

The choir will come to light candles and pray. As the responsive verse begins, the congregation is invited to come forward to offer prayers of thanksgiving and petition. There are four prayer stations available, two standing and two kneeling. Please remain seated until a station becomes open then come forward to light one of the narrow tapers from the center candle and place it in the sand.

Remain at the station as long as you wish. Leave in silence.

If you choose not to participate in this rite you may leave quietly at this time.

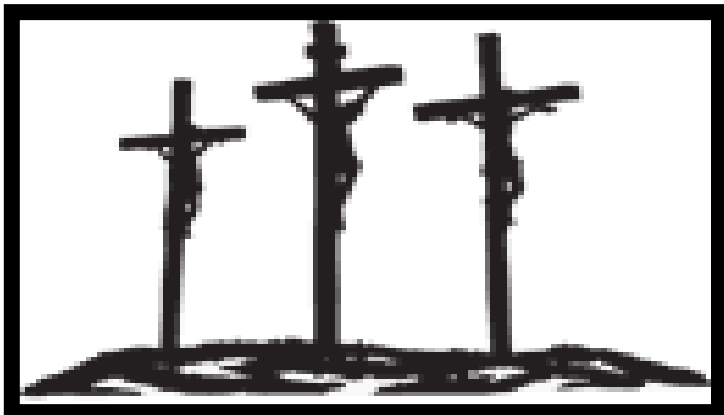
All Depart in Silence

*Congregation stands
(k) Congregation kneels

Minister	Rev. J. Chris Fischer
Organist/Choir Director	Jill Helgeson
Lectors	(12:00 p.m.) Rynde Dial (7:00 p.m.) Sandi Jordan
Candlelighter	(12:00 p.m.) Rynde Dial (7:00 p.m.) Mary Ann Hobbs
The Voice	Sid Stokes
The Choir	Amy Goodson, Michelle Nelson, Christina Fischer, Virgil Hobbs, Jay Bannister, Joshua Fischer, Beth Cribbe, Nancy Korn, Lucy Roehrs
Ushers	(12:00 p.m.) Mike Oates, Chad Evans (7:00 p.m.) Chris Caldwell, Kevin Lockhart

There are baskets in the Narthex and Sacristy containing personal pocket crosses for everyone. Please take one.

There is an offering basket in the Narthex and Sacristy to receive your offering. The Offering received tonight will be given to Haven of Rest.





Sunrise Worship with Holy Communion
7:00 a.m.
Breakfast to follow

Worship Service with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m.

Note: There will not be an Adult or Youth Sunday School class, or a nursery.



CROSS OF FLOWERS

Again, this year the cross will be outside in front of the church. Please remember to bring your flowers Easter Sunday morning from your garden or from the grocery store to cover the cross. This is a great opportunity for family photos. What a beautiful way to celebrate our risen Lord!