

Scripture Reading: *Mark 15:33-39 (NIV)*

The Death of Jesus

33 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 34 And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).[b]

35 When some of those standing near heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.”

36 Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down,” he said.

37 With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

38 The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died,[c] he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”



March 30, 2018

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Service of Darkness

Welcome

Video: "Peter's Denial"

Opening Prayer

Hymn: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

Good Friday Gospel: John 18:1-19:42

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" LBW #117

The Seven Last Words of Jesus

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

(Luke 23:34) - Prayer

Hymn: "Lamb of God"

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

(Luke 23:43) - Prayer

Hymn: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

"Woman, here is your son."

(John 19:26) - Prayer

Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" LBW 107

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

(Mark 15:34) - Prayer

Solo by Alex Mckay: "Death of Son"

"I am thirsty." (John 19:28) - Prayer

Hymn: "Were You There" (verses 1-3) LBW 92

"It is finished." (John 19:30) - Prayer

Hymn: "Amazing Love"

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

(Luke 23:46) - Prayer

Hymn: "The Power of the Cross"

Removal of Christ Candle- a time of silence is observed

Loud Noise - signifying the close of the tomb and the earthquake

Return of Christ Candle- a foreshadowing of the Resurrection

Lighting of individual candles

Leave in silence

Tonight's worship is based on a "Tenebrae" Service; a Service of Darkness. Very simply it draws us into the depths of the suffering and death of Jesus. The responses are shared, the songs are sung and the story of the Crucifixion is told. As each of the Scripture readings are shared, one candle will be extinguished. The only light will be that of the Christ Candle, which will be taken out of the sanctuary. In the darkness, a sharp noise will be heard, symbolizing the death of Jesus. Then the Christ Candle will reappear and each person's candle will be lit to remind us that as we leave in silence, we go knowing of the Easter celebration to come. After our worship this night, we remember that the Story is not over. We are urged to return Sunday morning to join the "hallelujah chorus" of joy as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.