

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Buffalo, New York

Good Friday, March 29, 2024
7:00 p.m.

Welcome to Holy Trinity!

Holy Trinity recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us.

We proclaim ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation to all of God's creatures welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status.

We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space through the protection against oppression internally, in institutions, interpersonally and structurally.

We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

Visitors interested in membership may talk with a Council representative at the Council desk, contact the Church office or indicate on the yellow Welcome sheet.

We invite you to share your story and your worship experience! Check-in and share on any of our social media platforms using #poweroftrinity.

You can find us on Facebook @holytrinitybuffalo, on Instagram @holytrinitybuffalo or on twitter @holytrinitybuff

Large print bulletins are available at the entrance ways

INTRODUCTION

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, we 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 assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

We gather in silence

Please rise as the cross approaches

THE PROCESSION OF CLERGY AND CHOIR READING OF PSALM 22

The congregation is invited to read responsively.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

⁷All 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!"**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**¹⁶For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.**

My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;

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

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away!

O my help, come quickly to my aid!

**²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog!**

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

**²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

**²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember

and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations

shall worship before him.

**²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the
nations.**

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,

and I shall live for him.

**³⁰Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the LORD,
³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.**

Merciful God,
**Your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself.
Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at
all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.
Amen.**

We adore you, O Christ and we bless you.
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Please be seated

MOTET

O Vos Omnes (1942)

Pablo Casals
(1876–1973)

O all you people who pass by, attend and see:
if there be any sorrow like my sorrow.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson

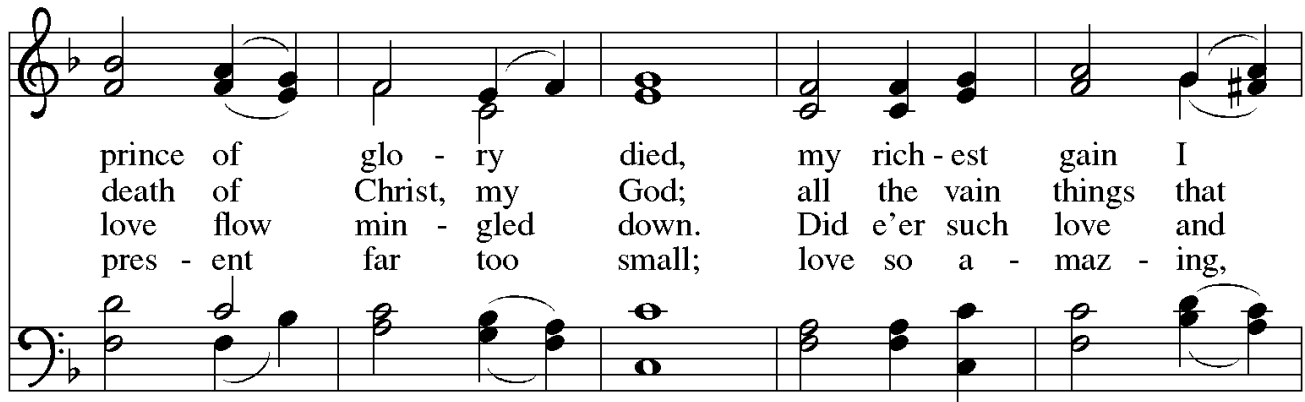
THE HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross "Hamburg"

ELW 803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

THE FIRST READING

Read by Kathy Crissey

JESUS IS ARRESTED: John 18:1-12

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ²Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" ⁵They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.

⁶When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." ⁹This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." ¹⁰Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus.

¹¹Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?" ¹²So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

THE HYMN STANZA:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW 351 (vs. 1)

"Herzlich tut mich verlangen"

**O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.**

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The first candle is extinguished)

THE SECOND READING

Read by Linda Schmidt

PETER DENIES JESUS: John 18:13-27

¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. ¹⁵Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter was standing outside at the gate.

So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."

¹⁸Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. ¹⁹Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

²²When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

²³Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. ²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

THE HYMN STANZA:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW 351 (vs. 2)

“Herzlich tut mich verlangen”

**How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit; I made you branches of the vine and never left your side, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The second candle is extinguished)

THE THIRD READING

Read by Linda Horton

JESUS BEFORE PILATE: John 18:28-40

²⁸Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

³¹Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

³²(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) ³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

⁴⁰They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

THE MOTET

My Soul Is Exceeding Sorrowful

Text: Responsories for the Office of Tenebrae

Eleanor Daley

(b. 1955)

My soul is exceeding sorrowful even unto death.
Tarry ye here and watch with me.
Now shall ye see the multitude come upon me;
ye shall flee, and I go to be sacrificed for you.
Behold the hour is at hand,
and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.
Ye shall flee, and I go to be sacrificed for you.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The third candle is extinguished)

THE FOURTH READING

Read by Angela Keppel

JESUS IS SENTENCED TO DEATH: John 19:1-16a

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face.

⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

⁶When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." ⁸Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever.

⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

¹³When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

THE HYMN STANZA:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW 351 (vs. 3)

"Herzlich tut mich verlangen"

**What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The fourth candle is extinguished)

THE FIFTH READING

Read by Chris Huber

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED: John 19:16b-22

^{16b} So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'"

²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

THE HYMN STANZA:

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW 351 (vs. 4)

“Herzlich tut mich verlangen”

**Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing die safely in thy love.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear; I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

THE SIXTH READING

Read by Martha Kutas

IT IS FINISHED: John 19:23-30

²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top.

²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." ²⁵And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. ²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A 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. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

THE MOTET

Tenebrae factae sunt

Michael Haydn
(1737–1806)

Darkness had fallen there the sixth hour when they had crucified Jesus: and then, about the ninth hour Jesus in a loud voice cried out, saying: o my Father, why hast thou forsaken me now? And having cried out, bowed his head and yielded up the ghost. Then Jesus cried out in a loud voice, saying: Father into thy keeping henceforth I yield up my spirit.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross; I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

(The sixth candle is extinguished)

THE SEVENTH READING

Read by Doug Alderdice

THE BURIAL: John 19:31-42

³¹Since 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. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, 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.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

³⁸After 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. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now 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. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

THE MOTET

Improperium (You Have Abandoned Me)

McNeil Robinson

(1943-2015)

Joshua Corwin, *viola*

You have abandon'd me and broken my heart, and I am full of woe.
I look about for someone who will be merciful, but there is no one.
No one will console me, no one will comfort my pain.
But you gave me vinegar to drink,
and when I was hungry you fed me the bitterest gall.
You have abandon'd me and broken my heart, and I am full of woe.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?
Answer me. I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but
I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no
drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not
clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have
prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy
upon us.**

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.

(The seventh candle is extinguished)

THE HYMN

Were You There

African-American Spiritual

arr. Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they laid him in the grave?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

The paschal candle is removed from the chancel as the bell is tolled thirty-nine times, each toll representing one of the lashes Jesus received when he was flogged at his trial before Pilate.

*The candle is returned to the altar in the darkness,
a sign of the promise that the
Light of the World cannot be extinguished.*

*When the lights return, the congregation is asked
to leave the church in silence.*

*Offerings and tithes may be left in the offering plates
located at each exit.*



Readers

Kathy Crissey, Linda Schmidt,
Linda Horton, Angela Keppel, Chris Huber,
Martha Kutas and Doug Alderdice

Crucifer

Avery Best

Acolytes

Henry Flynn, Clayton Best

Ushers are:

Ron Leiser (Captain), Mike Day, Alan Heiss,
Elizabeth Vihnanek and Marty Wright



EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

8:30 am Festival Service of Holy Communion

9:00 am Easter Breakfast

9:45 a.m. Preservice music with Choir and instruments

10:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion
with Choir and instruments

HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP

Congregational Council

Jennifer Yap, *President*
Kathy Crissey, *Vice-President*
Fred Howard, *Treasurer*
Linda Horton, *Secretary*

Paul Bauchle, Matthew Brown, Gail Camilleri,
Christopher Huber, Karen Kolb, Pat Lonergan,
Raúl Saona and Elizabeth Vihnanek

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