



Good Friday
March 29, 2024

At St. Paul's, ALL are welcome:

As Lutherans we believe that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. It is not something we earn but is freely given through God's love. That love is for all of us - created in God's image - and we respond by welcoming and including everyone, regardless of age, background, race, ethnicity, creed, socioeconomic class, marital status, physical or mental ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join with us as we seek to promote racial equity, social and economic justice, and care for our environment. There is a place for you here.

Serving on Friday, March 29

Pastor	The Rev. Laura M. Tancredi
Youth & Family Minister	The Rev. Timothy Ness
Music Director/Organist	Andrew K. Heller
Ushers	Libby Hoyer
Readers	Tom Kane
	Emily Hampson
	Stu Krissinger
	Sally Foster-Chang
Camera Crew	Stephenie Yeung

Good Friday



Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Ardmore, Pennsylvania

March 29, 2024

7:00 pm

Gathering

Please gather in silence. Stand as you are able when the clergy enter.

The congregation speaks the words in bold print.

At the asterisk (), please stand as you are able.*

***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, 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.**

ANTHEM

He Was Despised

G. F. Handel

Renée Schulz

Word

Reading Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Hymn #338 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

The Passion of our Lord according to St. John

Reading John 18:1-27

Hymn # 345 (vss. 1,4) *Jesus I Will Ponder Now*

The first candle is extinguished.

Reading John 18:28—19:16a

Hymn # 351 (vss. 1,3) *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

The second candle is extinguished.

Reading John 19:16b-30

Hymn # 347 (vss. 1,3) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

The third candle is extinguished.

Reading John 19:31-42

Hymn # 353 (vss. 1, 2, 5) *Were You There*

The fourth candle is extinguished.

HOMILY Pastor Ness

***BIDDING PRAYER**

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit, guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for Elizabeth and Patricia our bishops, for our pastor, Laura, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus, your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear the prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in

the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for God's creation.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those in need.

(Silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

Forty years I led you through the desert,
feeding you with manna on the way;

I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the
bread of heaven,

but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire,
but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate;

I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me.

I poured out saving water from the rock,
but you gave me vinegar to drink;
I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my
blood,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,|
have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for
you? |

Answer me. |

I grafted you into my people Israel,
but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, |
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, |
have mercy on us.**

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 and immortal,|
have mercy on us.

*HYMN # 803

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
(Silence)

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

The Benediction is omitted until Easter
to reflect the continuity of worship throughout these days.

Due to the nature of this evening's liturgy,
no offering will be collected.
Please place your offering in the plate in the narthex
as you leave the church.

Please leave in silence. You may remain for prayer and meditation.



Easter Sunday, March 31
9:00 and 10:45 am
Holy Communion

Refreshments outdoors (weather permitting)
between services