

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

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Service of Shadows and Stones

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 15, 2022

6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary & live-streaming

Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity LutheranSparta)

Our worship service will also be recorded and will be available on our website

www.tlcsparta.org

They shouted

“Crucify him
crucify him!”

Pilate asked

“Shall I crucify
your King?”

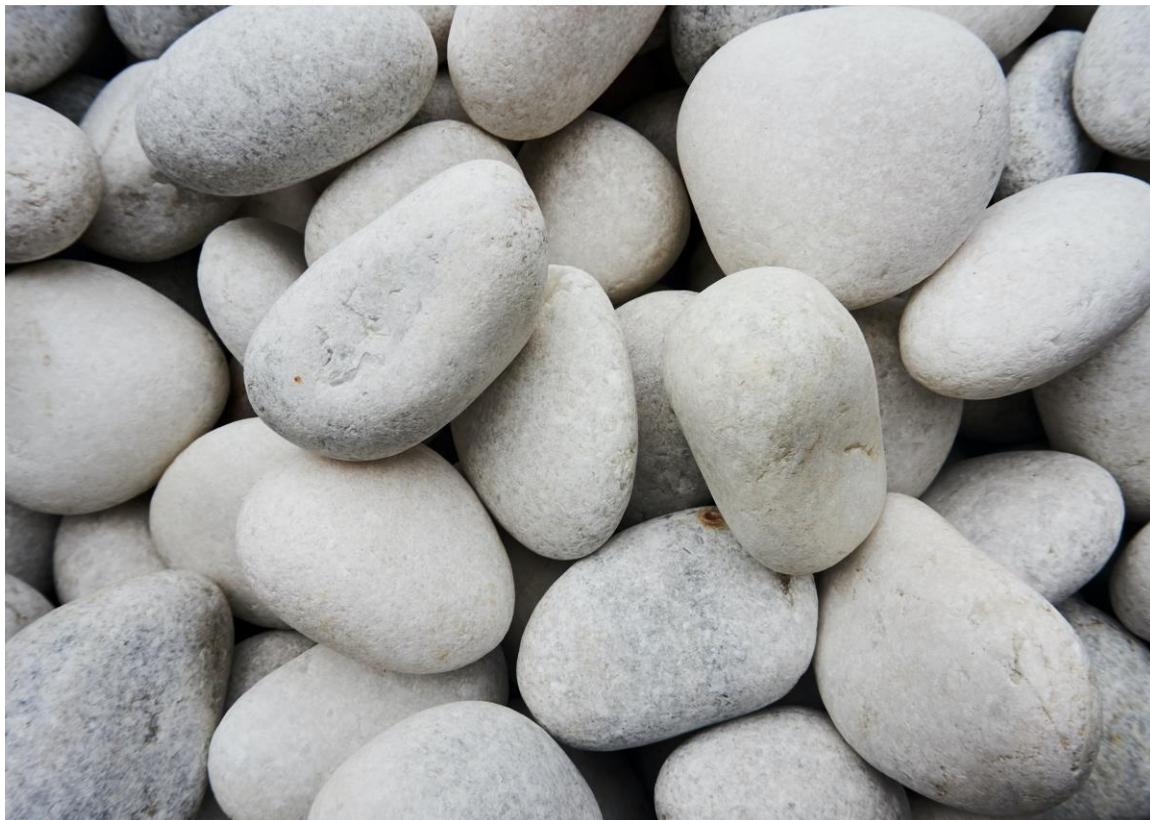
The chief priests answered, “We have no king but the emperor.”

Then he handed him over to be crucified. So they took Jesus;
and carrying the cross, he went out to The Place of the Skull.

There they
crucified him
and with him
two others,
one on either
side with Jesus
between them.
Pilate also had
an inscription
written and put
on the cross.

It read “Jesus
of Nazareth, the
King of the Jews.”

This Tenebrae Service is from Immanuel-Trinity Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. March 30, 2018. Rev. Tom Meyer and Rev. Sue Sheffer-Meyer.



As you entered the Sanctuary you were handed a stone. We encourage you to hold onto your stone during worship. Some stones are used as worry stones. Stones are used as weights. Stones are used as symbols of altars built where people have an encounter with God.

And stones are used in modern Judaism to leave at a grave site as a way to honor the memory of the deceased. Today, we employ all these symbols, and whatever

new ones you bring. Together, we bring them; all of them, to the foot of the cross, for this is where the weight of our sin and the gravity of grace come face to face.

We gather in Silence

Tenebrae candles are lit as the bell sounds.

The Call to Worship

P All you who pass this way

C: look and see the shadow of sin, look see the weight of the world

P: All you who pass this way

C: look and see the suffering of our Savior.

P: All you who pass this way, look and see the sorrow of Jesus Christ.

C: Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

The Hymn “ Beneath the Cross of Jesus” ELW # 338 vs 1

Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noon-tide heat and burdens of the day

The Service of Shadows and Stones

A stone is placed at the foot of the cross, as a candle is extinguished after each reading and prayer as the Hymn is sung.

The Stone of Condemnation Luke 23:32-34

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus,] there

with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. †

The Prayer : Unison

Forgiving Christ, when the world condemns us, when wrong is done to us, when we carry the weight of things that are too much to forgive, come alongside us in the darkness and give us the grace to be forgiven and forgiving. Amen

The Hymn “Go To Dark Gethsemane” Vs.1 & 2 ELW# 347

1 Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

2 Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

The Stone of Separation Luke 23:35-43

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into] your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” †

The Prayer: Unison

Reconciling Christ, we are weighed down by sin and separation, a world that is not at peace, a people who are not whole. You reached out to the thief, you welcomed him to God's side. Come alongside us in the darkness and bring grace and peace to everything that is broken. Amen

The Hymn: "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" ELW# 803 vs 1 & 3

1. When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the prince of glory died.
My richest gain, I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride
3. See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, and thorns compose so rich a crow

The Stone of Sorrow John 19:25-27

And 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. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. †

The Prayer: Unison

Loving Jesus, we carry the weight of the people we love. We are concerned for their sorrows and suffering. Our care for them is deep, and sometimes there is not much we can do. Come alongside us in the darkness and cradle the ones we love in your strong hands. Amen

The Hymn "Ah, Holy Jesus" Vs.1 & 2 ELW #349

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that we to judge thee,
have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

The Stone of Despair Mark 5:33-34

But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.” †

The Prayer: Unison

Lord Jesus Christ, you know what it is to feel that God is far away. You know what it is to call out for God’s presence. Come alongside us in the darkness and help us call out for God. Amen

The Hymn. “Day by Day” Vs 1 ELW #790

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.

The Stone of Suffering John 19:28-30

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” 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. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. †

The Prayer: Unison

Suffering Savior, in all our thirst, in all our sickness, in all our longing, in all our pain, you are there. Come alongside us in the darkness and walk with us through all our suffering. Amen

The Hymn “Alas And Did My Savior Bleed” ELW # 337 vs 1 & 2

1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head, for sinners such as I?

2 Was it for sins that I had done, he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!

The Stone of Abandonment: Matthew 27:46-49

And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” †

The Prayer: Unison

Almighty God, it was all over for your beloved son, Jesus, Messiah, Savior of the People. His ministry completed our precious Savior and Friend gasped for his last breath and released a final agonizing cry. Help us to appreciate more than ever before the sacrifice of the spotless lamb of God for our salvation. Our Lord cried out “it is finished”, help us never write “finished” to our lives except as we are finished with our sinful ways. Amen

The Hymn “ Lord Jesus, Think on Me” ELW # 599 vs 1

1 Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin; from selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.

The Stone of Death: Mark 15: 37-38

Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

The Prayer: Unison

Dearest Jesus, even in death you are with us. When we mourn, when we are afraid, when we come to our own end, you have been there too. Come alongside us in the darkness and carry us through death to life. Amen

The Hymn "Were You There" ELW # 353 vs 1,4,5

1 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?

4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

In The Darkness.....LIGHT!

The Lord's Prayer (Whispered in unison)

The Service ends in Silent Reflection

Your Stone: As you entered you were handed a stone to remind you that a stone was rolled in front of his tomb. **When you are ready, please leave the sanctuary in reverent silence and place your stone at the foot of Jesus in the narthex in remembrance of his days in the tomb.**