

Good Friday Chief Service



Wednesday in Holy Week

31 March 2021

Chapel of St. Timothy & St. Titus | Concordia Seminary

—Please enter the nave in silence in reverence for the solemnity of Holy Week—

Notes on the Service

Today's service is the Good Friday Chief Service (without Communion). Good Friday is part of the sacred Triduum, the three-day observance of Christ's Passover. The name may originally have been "God's Friday," but it is certainly also "good" because of the good gifts Christ won for us on this day. Good Friday is not observed as a funeral for Christ. It is a day for repentance over sin and restrained joy and praise for the redemption Christ accomplished for us on the cross. In keeping with this character, music is kept to a minimum, though not silenced. Elaborate words of praise are omitted. The altar remains bare, having been stripped on the prior day (normally Holy Thursday). Given the solemnity of the day, silence is observed at various times in order to reflect upon the Word of God. Because the service is part of the Triduum, it has neither entrance rite nor benediction. The last verse of the concluding musical offering ensures that the final note of the service is one of triumph, for God's faithful know the end of the story. The rough-hewn wooden cross being used throughout Lent and in today's service was designed and executed by graduate Matthew Rosebrock.

Service of the Word

—Please kneel if able—

Prayer of the Day

Silence is kept following the invitation to pray to allow time for the assembly to pray individually for the concerns of this day.

P Let us pray... Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

—Please sit—

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

—Please kneel if able—

P Let us pray... Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with

steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

—Please sit—

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

—Please kneel if able—

P Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

—Please stand if able—

The Passion According to St. John

John 19:1-42

—Please sit—

Homily

Choir

“Surely, He Hath Borne Our Griefs”

—Please kneel if able—

The Bidding Prayer

The assisting minister will bid (announce) each petition; the presider will follow each bid with a prayer. Each prayer concludes with “through Jesus Christ, our Lord.” The assembly concludes each prayer with a unison “Amen.”

A Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

C Our Father who art in heaven....

The Reproaches and Adoration of the Cross

—Please stand if able—

Hymn

LSB 455, sts. 1, 4-6

*Following the hymn, the presider will carry the cross through the nave to the chancel. During the procession, the Sentence of the Cross will be sung three times and **the assembly will sing the Response of Adoration** with silence for reflection intervening. Turn and follow the cross as it passes through the nave. **During the Reproaches the assembly will sing the response and the concluding hymn stanza.***

Choir: All:

Behold, the life-giving cross
on which was hung the salvation of the world. O come, let us wor - ship Him.

—Please kneel if able or sit—

Reproach

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your Redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O My people.

Assembly Response

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -
deem - er; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of
death and hell. O Lord, have mer - cy.

Brief Silence

Reproach

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given Me over and delivered Me to those who persecute Me. For I have fed you with My Word and refreshed You with living water, and you have given Me gall and vinegar to drink. O My people.

Assembly Response

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -
deem - er; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of
death and hell. O Lord, have mer - cy.

Brief Silence

Reproach

P Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O My people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer Me. What more could have been done for My vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O My people.

Assembly Response

Ho-ly Lord God, holy and might-y God, holy and most merciful Re -
deem - er; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of
death and hell. O Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn

LSB 434, "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Adoration of Christ



We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.
God be merciful to us and | bless us,*
and cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy up- | on us.
We adore You, | O Lord,*
and we praise and glorify Your holy resur- | rection.
For behold, by the wood | of Your cross*
joy has come into | all the world.

—Please sit—

Adoration Hymn

"Were You There?"

Silence

—Please leave the nave in silence in reverence for the solemnity of Holy Week—

The Servants of the Word

Presider: Rev. Randy Asburry

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Timothy Saleska

Assistants: Seminarians Mason Vieth, Nathaniel Brown

Organist: Rev. Dr. Jim Marriott

Choir: Seminary Mixed Chorus

Soloist: Ms. Anna Otterman

Private Confession and Absolution

Make an appointment with Chaplain Sieveking for confession at the altar or in his office.



Reflections from the Passion according to St. John, from Ted and Rick (dark nose) by LCMS Pastor James Wetzstein (Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org).

We adore You, O Christ,
and we praise You. †
Because by Your holy
Cross You have redeemed the world