

Good Friday Worship – April 18, 2025 – 7:00 pm



Opening Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, You carried our sins in Your body on the tree so that we might have life. Be with us as we meditate this evening on Your final hours on the cross. As we come to the foot of Your cross, lead us to see how terribly serious our sins are – only God’s own Son could pay our debt – but also give us the joy and comfort that comes with the realization that in love You willingly went through all this so that we might have forgiveness and life eternal through a confident trust in Your living and dying in our stead. In Your saving name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 449 (1-3)

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

The Invocation & Confession of Sins

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins:

C: His mercy endures forever.

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins:

C: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of the world: We confess that we have sinned against Your divine majesty by thought, word and deed, provoking Your wrath against us. We repent. We are sorry for our sins. We grieve to think of them. Their burden is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, gracious Father! Forgive us our sins for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that we may serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: Lift up your hearts! The Lord God, according to His promise, is slow to anger and abounding in grace. Upon this your confession, I, a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 102 (selected verses)

P: Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come to You.

C: Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble; incline Your ear to me; in the day that I call, answer me speedily.

P: For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned like a hearth. My heart is stricken and withered like grass, so that I forget to eat my bread. because of the sound of my groaning My bones cling to my skin.

C: I am like a pelican of the wilderness; I am like an owl of the desert. I lie awake, and am like a sparrow alone on the housetop.

P: My enemies reproach me all day long; those who deride me swear an oath against me. For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping, because of Your indignation and Your wrath; for You have lifted me up and cast me away.

C: My days are like a shadow that lengthens, and I wither away like grass.

P: But You, O LORD, shall endure forever, and the remembrance of Your name to all generations. You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come. For Your servants take pleasure in her stones, and show favor to her dust.

C: So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth Your glory.

P: For the LORD looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven the LORD viewed the earth, to hear the groaning of the prisoner, to release those appointed to death.

C: To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and His praise in Jerusalem, when the peoples are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD. The children of Your servants will continue, and their descendants will be established before You.

Scripture Reading

Luke 23:32-49 (Jesus Dies on the Cross)

Confession of Faith

Luther's Explanation to the
Second Article of the Apostles Creed

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy, just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn 452

O Perfect Life of Love

Sermon

Meditations on Jesus' Seven Words from the Cross
Adapted from Paul E. Kretzmann's *Popular Commentary*

Offering

Prayer

Lord's Prayer – Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven, give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Passion History Reading

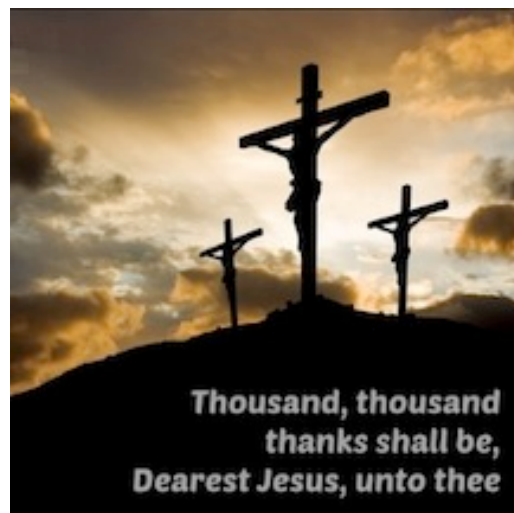
Chapter 7 (Jesus' Burial)

Hymn 449 (4)

The Benediction



All are invited to join with us again for the celebration
of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday at 9:30 am



Thousand, thousand
thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto thee

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
2470 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80214
www.denverlutheran.com
Thomas Schuetze, pastor – (303) 428-5524

Scripture Reading – Luke 23:32-49

Jesus Dies on the Cross

(after responsive reading of Psalm 102)

32 There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. 33 And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. 34 Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.” And they divided His garments and cast lots. 35 And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.” 36 The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, 37 and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.” 38 And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.” 40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” 42 Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” 43 And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.” 44 Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45 Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. 46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’” Having said this, He breathed His last. 47 So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, “Certainly this was a righteous Man!” 48 And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. 49 But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.