

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
1991 S. Oneida St. Denver, CO 80224 (303) 756-0735
Education Hour 9:00 A.M. Worship – 10:00 A.M.
www.crossofglorydenver.org
Pastor Mike Lemke

Good Friday – A Service of Darkness
Friday, April 10, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Prayer

Hymn “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (vs. 1, 3, 5)ELW #855

Homily.....Pastor Mike Lemke

Offering

Offertory Music

Prayer

I. LOVE’S FORGIVENESS

Reader 1: Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times but seventy-times seven.”

(Matthew 18:21-22)

Reader 2: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals; one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

(Luke 23:32-34)

(The first candle is extinguished.)

Hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (vs. 1-2).....ELW #351

II. LOVE’S REWARD

Reader 1: Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left. Then the King will say to those on His right: ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these My brethren, you did for Me.’”

(Matthew 25:31-34, 40)

Reader 2: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Jesus: “Aren’t You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him, “Don’t you fear God, since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise.”

(Luke 23:39-43)

(The second candle is extinguished)

Hymn: "Jesus, Remember Me" (Sing three times).....ELW #616

III. LOVE'S CONCERN

Reader 1: While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, His mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to Him. Someone told Him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to You." He replied to him, "Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?" Pointing to His disciples, He said, "Here are My mother and My brothers. For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

(Matthew 12:46-50)

Reader 2: Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, his mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

(John 19:25-27)

(The third candle is extinguished)

Hymn: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (vs. 1-3).....ELW #773

IV. LOVE'S PRESENCE

Reader 1: The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."

(Matthew 28:16-20)

Reader 2: At the sixth hour, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, Lama Sabachthani?" – which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

(Mark 15:33-34)

(The fourth candle is extinguished)

Silence

Hymn "Were You There?"(vs. 1-3).....ELW #353

V. LOVE'S NEED

Reader 1: On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within."

(John 7:37-38)

Reader 2. Later, knowing that all was not completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

(John 10:28-29)

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

Hymn "Ah, Holy Jesus" (vs. 1-3).....ELW #349

VI. LOVE'S COMPLETION

Reader 1: Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what He was talking about.

(Luke 18:31-34)

Reader 2: When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "it is finished."

(John 19:30a)

(The sixth candle is extinguished)

Hymn "Beautiful Savior" (vs. 1-4).....ELW #838

VII. LOVE'S INVITATION

Reader 1: Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

(Matthew 11:25a, 28-30)

Reader 2: It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He said this, He breathed His last.

(Luke 23:44-46)

(The seventh candle is extinguished)

Meditative Music: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (vs.1-3)ELW #338

(As this hymn is sung, the congregation is asked to leave the darkened sanctuary in silence, confident of the resurrection).

THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

Where are you, O LORD our GOD?

Your Son suffers.

Your Spirit eludes us.

On this awful day of deep sadness

and this night of blackest darkness,

All is lonely emptiness.

We look for you but it seems as if you have gone away.

We listen for your voice but all is stillness.

We reach for you, but our sins and transgressions come between.

We stand at the foot of the cross and we are as guilty for Jesus' pain and suffering, as
any who were there.

We sit with the soldiers and play games to pass the time while your son is dying.

We split a lot of hairs and argue over much about the words, with the chief priests.
We murmur with the gathered crowd about where to lay the blame.
We linger there with Jesus' mother, trying to understand a grief too monstrous to bear.
We are as shadowy figures moving about, avoiding responsibility and hoping this
nightmare will go away.

Come to us, LORD. Stay with us, JESUS.
Go before us, HOLY SPIRIT and lead us away from this gloom to the light of your presence
once again.

For Jesus' sake, Amen.

*He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for
righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed. Peter 2:24*

Barbara J. Palmer
(Used by Permission)

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