



***Your cross I place before me;
Its saving pow'r restore me,
Sustain me in the test.
It will, when life is ending,
Be guiding and attending
My way to Your eternal rest.***

The black and white line-art drawing on the front cover is by Lutheran Artist Edward Riojas of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and is part of a package purchased from Higher Things and donated to Pilgrim for such uses. The caption on the front cover is from *Lutheran Service Book* 453:7. The service is adapted from *Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2006), reprinted via Lutheran Service Builder (license #110005153). Liturgical elements are also drawn from *The Lutheran Hymnal* (St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 1941), *Lutheran Book of Worship: Ministers Desk Edition* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1978), *Lutheran Worship: Agenda* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1984), and *Church Rites* (Adelaide: Openbook Publishers, 1994).



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



713 Florey Street
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503
www.pilgrimlc.org

Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor
903- 984-4333
pastor@pilgrimlc.org

WELCOME! Good Friday, what may have originally been “God’s Friday”, remembers the “good” gifts Christ won for us this day, day two of the Triduum (Latin for “three days”), the three-day observance of Christ’s Passion. Today’s service is not a funeral for Christ but is characterized by repentance over sin and restrained joy and praise for the redemption that Christ accomplished for us on the cross. Music is kept to a minimum, though not completely silenced. Elaborate words of praise are omitted, and the altar remains bare, stripped on Maundy Thursday, until used for the Sacrament of the Altar, and even then it is minimally dressed.

ORDER OF SERVICE: To your right you will find tonight’s order of service. The numbers on the right side refer to the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, with the Psalms towards the front, its liturgical pages towards the middle, and its hymns towards the back. You may note that this Good Friday service essentially continues that begun with the Invocation Maundy Thursday and ends with the Benediction at the Easter Vigil.

HOLY COMMUNION: At Pilgrim we value your presence among us and love and care about our guests and visitors! However, due to the sad divisions that exist in the world and even in Christianity, we cannot commune everyone at the Lord’s Table here. We respectfully ask that guests and visitors who desire to commune first speak with the pastor well before the service. All those present but not communing still may approach the rail for a blessing: come forward and kneel with those who are communing, but fold your arms over your heart and place your hands on the opposite shoulders. For more information about the ancient practice of Closed Communion, see <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/closed-communion>.

INDIVIDUAL CUPS: The top of the tray contains several individual cups of highly-diluted wine. If you receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please be sure to wait to consume it until Pastor comes by with the chalice, so that he knows you are receiving it in that fashion. If the supply of individual cups is depleted, please accept the blood of Christ from the chalice.

GOOD FRIDAY

2026 APRIL 3

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.151-166.)

Although many of us may be more-familiar with The Service of Tenebrae (Latin for “darkness”) or with another type of service on Good Friday, what may be less-familiar elements of tonight’s service are ancient: the full reading of the Passion according to St. John, the Bidding Prayer, the cross procession, and the Reproaches. Even the celebration of the Lord’s Supper on Good Friday is ancient, though its practice has varied over time. We believe that distributing, with restrained praise, the fruits of Jesus’s death on the cross, in the Sacrament of His true body and blood, is an appropriate way to proclaim and remember Him.

+++ IN THE NAME OF JESUS +++

All enter the church in silence.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Kneel/Stand

Opening Sentences

- P** Far be it from me to boast of anything
- G** **except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.** *Galatians 6:14*
- P** In Him is salvation, life, and resurrection from the dead;
- G** **by Him we are redeemed and set free.** *Liturgical text*
- P** May God be gracious to us and bless us,
- G** **and make His face to shine upon us.** *Psalms 67:1*

Collect of the 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.
- G** **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

After the reading

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection

Kneel/Stand

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.

Sit

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

After the reading

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection

Kneel/Stand

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.

Sit

The Gospel Reading and Hymns: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Hymn: "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" 440:1

Reading: *Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus* John 18:1-11

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:1

Reading: *Jesus before the High Priest and the Denial of Peter* John 18:12-27

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:2

Reading: *Jesus before Pilate* John 18:28-40

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:3

Reading: *Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion* John 19:1-16a

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:4

Stand

Reading: *The Crucifixion of Jesus* John 19:16b-24

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:5

Reading: *Jesus's Mother and His Death* John 19:25-30

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:6

Reading: *Jesus's Side Is Pierced* John 19:31-42

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" 450:7

Sit

Silence for reflection

Kneel/Stand

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You carried our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we might have life. Grant that we and all who remember this day might find new life in You, now and in the world to come, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit

Sermon: "Don't miss the Tree for the forest" John 18:9, 32; 19:24, 28, 36

Stand

Hymn of the Day: "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle" 454:1-4

Kneel/Stand

Bidding Prayer

P On this most sacred day when our Lord, Who has been lifted up to draw all people to Himself, has gone before us to the Father, we His body stand with Him before the Father and interceded for His Church and His World.

(The Elder bids a prayer, and the Pastor prays it.

Each prayer ends "through Jesus Christ our Lord", and the congregation responds "Amen.")

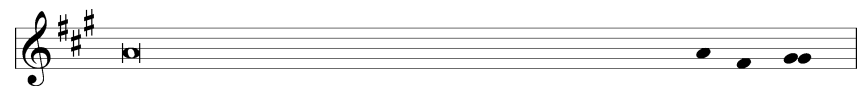
Stand

Procession of the cross

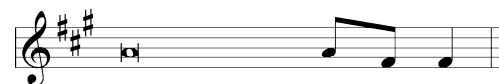
A rough-hewn cross is carried in procession from the entrance to the altar.

The congregation turns to always face the cross.

The following Versicle and Response are sung three times.



Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the world.



O come, let us wor-ship Him.

Hymn: "The Royal Banners forward Go" 455:1-5

Kneel/Sit

Reproaches

The following Reproaches are the words of the Lord against His people, the Church, to which the cantor/liturgist and congregation in turn reply with a plea for mercy.

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.

Micah 6:3-4

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

C "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" **434:1**

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.

Jeremiah 2:6-7

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

C "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" **434:2**

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.

Isaiah 5:2-4

L Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful Redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

C "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" **434:3**

Kneel/Stand

Adoration of Christ



C 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.

P O Christ, the Savior of the world, we praise and adore You for the redemption of the world through Your holy cross.

C Jesus, Son of the living God, draw us and all people to Yourself.
Amen.

Stand

Hymn: "We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died"

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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Invitation

P Come and receive the body and blood of the Lamb of God, Who takes
away the sin of the world.

Sit

Distribution and Distribution Hymns:

“The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord”	634
“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”	439
“Were You There”	456

Stand

Versicle and Response:

P As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
C You Proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

Concluding Collect

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, Whose Son suffered death on the cross, before He
was enthroned in glory: Grant that as we, fed and nourished on His
Body and Blood, walk with Him on the way of the cross to our glory in
heaven, we may find it to be the way of pardon and peace and life;
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.

Concluding Sentences

P We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.
C By Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.

Concluding Hymn: “Upon the Cross Extended”

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*All may remain for a time of silent prayer and meditation, leaving quietly when finished.
The Offering Box is available for your use in the Narthex as usual.*

+++ TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +++

SERVING US TONIGHT: The Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor;
Jeromy McMurray, Elder on Duty; Carl Gardner, Cantor; Remo Gualtieri,
Bidder; Zylan Ellis, Cross-bearer; Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

ALL ARE INVITED TO OUR EASTER ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE:

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Egg Hunt

9:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class ("Easter Essentials")

10:45 a.m. Divine Service.