



March 29, 2024

Good Friday  
Tenebrae Service

St. Croix  
United Church &  
Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church

**Welcome!**

Restrooms: main level (exit front left), lower level (at foot of entry stair/elevator)

***Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness or shadows.***

*Toward the end of this service of worship,  
we experience complete darkness as we remove the Christ Candle from the Sanctuary.  
We sense the gravity of Jesus' death as we join in a medieval Tenebrae ritual.  
With sustained drumming, we remember the earthquake recounted in Scripture.  
Then the Christ Candle comes back to us, shining even in the midst of grief and loss.*

***A light that shines in the darkness,  
a light that the darkness has never overtaken. ~ John 1: 5***

*We leave in silence as grieving disciples, trusting in the mystery of the resurrection.  
The Christ Light signifies hope as we anticipate the good news of Easter morning.*

\* = Sitting or standing

NCH = New Century Hymnal

## Entering Into Darkness

**Gathering Music**

*We gently settle into sacred time and space*

**Words of Welcome**

Pastor Clare Gromoll

**Procession of the Cross**

*A loud drumbeat accompanies the cross*

**\*Opening Prayer** (*unison*)

Pastor Amy Vigesaa

**O God, under whose wings all your creatures find shelter, to you we cling in this night of grief. We gather to remember the betrayal, accusations, trial, suffering, and death of our beloved friend and savior. With those who followed Jesus during his lifetime, we face the costs of discipleship. Give us strength in this hour and hope for the promise of resurrection. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn (NCH #219)**

“Journey to Gethsemane”

**verses 1—3**

## Betrayal And Arrest

**Narration from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 22**

Mary Binger & Pastor Clare

Then Jesus went out and made his way as usual to the Mount of Olives;  
the disciples accompanied him...

**Extinguishing a Candle**

**Interlude**

## Trial And Judgment

**Scripture Reading | Luke 23:1-25**

Jenny Schoolman

Then the whole assembly arose and led Jesus to Pilate.  
They began to accuse Jesus...

## Extinguishing a Candle

Hymn (NCH #218)

“Ah, Holy Jesus”  
verses 1-3

### Darkness Descends

Scripture Reading | Luke 23:44-45

Cheri Schwartz

It was now about noon, and darkness fell on the whole land  
until three in the afternoon, because of an eclipse of the sun ...

## Extinguishing a Candle

Sung Response (NCH #192)

“When Jesus Wept”

cantor sings once, then all sing together

### Eloi, Eloi, Lema Sabachthani

Scripture Reading | Mark 15:34

Beth Burns

At three, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”...

Sung Response

“Psalm 22”

all sing refrain, liturgist reads verses



My God, why have you forsaken me? You are far from the cry of my distress.  
O my God, I call by day and you give no reply; I call by night and I find no peace.

In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you set them free.  
When they cried to you, they escaped. In you they trusted and never in vain.

*Refrain*

Like water I am poured out, disjointed are all my bones.  
My heart has become like wax, it is melted within my breast.  
Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet, I can count every one of my bones.

***Refrain***

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone; my strength, make haste to help me!  
Rescue my soul from the sword, my life from the grip of these dogs.  
Save my life from the jaws of these lions, my poor soul from the horns of the oxen.

***Refrain***

I will tell of your name to my friends and praise you where they are assembled.  
You who fear the Lord, give God praise; all children of Jacob, give God glory!  
For you have never despised nor scorned the poverty of the poor.  
From them you have not hidden your face, but you heard the poor when they cried.

***Refrain***

**Extinguishing a Candle**

**Jesus Breathes His Last**

**Scripture Reading | Mark 15:37-39**

Then Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last.  
And the curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two, from top to bottom ...

**Extinguishing a Candle**

**Hymn (NCH #226)**

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”  
**verses 1 & 3**

**Message**

Pastor Amy Vigesaa

**Interlude**

## The Women By The Cross

### Scripture Reading | Mark 15:40-41

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene; and Mary, the mother of James the younger and of Joses; and Salome...

### Extinguishing a Candle

### Choral Anthem "Let Us Gather in the Shadow of the Cross"

by Brad Nix and Joseph M. Martin  
St. Croix United Church choir

## Jesus Is Taken Off The Cross

### Scripture Reading | Mark 15:42-45

As it grew dark—it was Preparation Day, that is, the eve of the Sabbath—a distinguished member of the Sanhedrin, Joseph from Arimathea, arrived ...

### Extinguishing a Candle

### Sung Response

"Holy God"

**cantor sings once, then all sing repeatedly**

*As we sing, cross bearers help move the cross over the whole congregation  
When the cross passes over you, reach up to touch it and pass it along*



Ho - ly God, ——— Ho - ly and might - y one,



Ho - ly im - mor - tal one, have mer - cy on us.

## The Body Of Jesus Is Anointed

### Scripture Reading | John 19:38b-40

So Joseph came and took away Jesus' body. Nicodemus came as well—the same one who had first come to Jesus by night ...

### Extinguishing a Candle

**Wrapping Jesus' Body in Spices and Oil**      *Three beloved ones attend to Jesus' body*

### Anointing with Oil

*Anointing with oil is an ancient symbol of healing in the church. We need healing when the heart, body, or soul has been wounded through betrayal, loss, grief, or despair.*

*Please approach by the central aisle and return by a side aisle.  
Gesture to your forehead or hold out your hand.*

**Hymn (NCH #229)**

**"Were You There?"**  
**verses 1-2, 4**

*We sing during anointing*

### The Invitation to the Offering

*Greeters pass offering plates  
We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)*

***Please write checks to St. Croix United Church***  
*(checks can no longer be written to our former St. Peter's and People's names)*

*All gifts given this evening (cash, check, electronic)  
will be split between the two churches*



**Offertory Anthem**

**"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"**

*arr. Richard Billingham*  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church choir

**\*Prayer** (*unison*)

**O Holy One, we bring to you this night who we are and what we can give:  
an abiding commitment to follow the way of Jesus,  
an undying hope to fully embrace your wonder and mystery,  
a growing confidence that your grace is sufficient for all our needs,  
an increase in our generosity toward all in your creation.  
Receive us and continue to guide us through the darkest of nights and days,  
by the light of your wondrous love. Amen.**

**\*Hymn (NCH #223)**

**“What Wondrous Love Is This?”**

**verses 1-2**

**The Body Of Jesus Is Laid In A Tomb**

**Scripture Reading | Luke 23: 53-55**

Having wrapped him in the linen shroud, they laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever been laid ...

**Removal of the Christ Candle**

*All remaining lights go out*

**Earthquake**

*As the Christ Candle passes by you, lean forward to drum on the pew in front of you.  
Continue drumming. When it passes by you on its return, please stop drumming.*

**Extended Silence and Darkness**

*Please remain seated for a full minute of silence*

**Departure**

*When lights are turned back on, we depart in complete silence*

We invite you to join us Easter morning!



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

8am Easter Worship @ BLC  
9:00am Easter Breakfast @ BLC  
10:30am Easter Worship @ BLC

## St. Croix United Church


6:45am Easter Sunrise @ People's Park  
9:00am Easter Breakfast @ SCUC  
9:30am Easter Egg Hunt @ SCUC  
10am Easter Worship @ SCUC

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Michael Bjork (SCUC Choir Director), Daniel Baumgartner (BLC Director of Worship & Music), SCUC & BLC Choirs, Bob Dickie & Cindy Parsons (greeters), Mary Binger, Jenny Schoolman, Cheri Schwartz, Beth Burns (liturgists), Mary Maren Bjork, Erin Wubben (women at the cross), Rolf Dittmann, Colin Goulette, Jim Pilquist (drama team), Fritz West & Becky Cummins (anointers), Paul Spilseth & Mary Binger (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Jenni Shaller (decorations)




**Bethlehem  
Lutheran Church**

### Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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John 18:1-20:18

James Montgomery, 1820; alt.

1 Jour - ney to Geth - se - ma - ne, go and feel the  
 2 Fol - low then to Pi - late's hall, view the Lord of  
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb, see the Sav - ior  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb, hear the cry of

tempt - er's power; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,  
 life ar - rained; Crowned with thorns and mocked by all,  
 lift - ed high, Mark the mir - a - cle of time,  
 great sur - prise; Then the si - lence in the room,

watch the an - guish of this hour; Do not hide or  
 faith - ful - ly this pain sus - tained; Great - er still than  
 God's own Child is sac - ri - ficed; "It is fin - ished!"  
 Je - sus there no long - er lies: Christ is ris - en!

turn a - way: learn from Je - sus how to pray.  
 shame or loss, Je - sus now must face the cross.  
 Je - sus cries: learn from Je - sus how to die.  
 Re - al - ize that with Christ we, too, may rise.

James Montgomery, born of Moravian missionary parents, edited a newspaper in England. Risking imprisonment, he published articles advocating human rights, including the abolition of slavery. He wrote more than 400 hymns.

Tune: REDHEAD NO. 76 7.7.7.7.7.7.  
 Richard Redhead, 1853

# Ah, Holy Jesus

218

Johann Heermann, 1630

Isa. 53:3-5; John 1:11; 18:15-17

Paraphr. by Robert Bridges, 1899; alt.

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how have you of - fend - ed, that mor-tal  
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on you? It is my  
3 For me, kind Je - sus, was your in - car - na - tion, your mor-tal  
4 There-fore, kind Je - sus, since I can-not pay you, I do a -

judg - ment has on you de - scend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
trea - son, Je - sus, that has slain you. And I, dear Je - sus,  
sor - row, and your life's ob - la - tion, Your death of an - guish  
dore you, and will ev - er pray you, Think on your pit - y

by your own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed!  
I it was de - nied you; I cru - ci - fied you.  
and your bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
and your love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Based on an eleventh-century Latin meditation by Jean de Fécamp, this is one of many fine hymns by Johann Heermann. Though poor, Heermann's parents prepared him for the Lutheran pastorate. Much of his ministry took place during the Thirty Years' War.

Tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5.  
Johann Crüger, 1640

# When Jesus Wept

192

William Billings, 1770

John 11:35



1 When Je - sus wept, the fall - ing tear in mer - cy



flowed be - yond all bound; When Je - sus groaned, a



trem - bling fear seized all the guilt - y world a - round.

*William Billings served as choir leader at Old South Church (Congregational) in Boston. A self-taught singing-school teacher and composer, he also worked as a tanner. "When Jesus Wept" is especially beautiful when sung as a canon, with groups entering as indicated by the numbers above.*

Tune: WHEN JESUS WEPT L.M.  
William Billings, 1770  
New England Psalm Singer

## O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

226

*Medieval Latin, attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux (1091–1153)**German paraphr. by Paul Gerhardt, 1656**Transl. James W. Alexander, 1830; alt.**Isa. 53; John 19:1–3*

1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
 2 What you, dear Sav - ior, suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain;  
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank you, dear - est friend;

Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, your on - ly crown,  
 Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but yours the dead - ly pain.  
 For this your dy - ing sor - row, your pit - y with - out end?

How pale you are with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn!  
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior, for I de - serve your place;  
 May I be yours for - ev - er; and though my days be few,

How does your vis - age lan - guish which once was bright as morn!  
 Look on me with your fa - vor, O grant to me your grace.  
 O Sav - ior, let me nev - er out - live my love for you!

*This hymn is drawn from an extended Latin poem in seven sections, each addressed to a member of Christ's body on the cross. It comes to us by way of a German translation by Lutheran pastor and hymnwriter Paul Gerhardt.*

Tune: PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6.D.  
 (HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN)

Melody by Hans Leo Hasler, 1601

Harm. J. S. Bach, 1729

For another harmonization, see 179

John 19:16-18; 20:11-17

African-American spiritual

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
 3 Were you there when God wept at Mar - y's cry?  
 4 Were you there when Christ rose up from the tomb?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
 Were you there when God wept at Mar - y's cry?  
 Were you there when Christ rose up from the tomb?

O some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
 Were you there when God wept at Mar - y's cry?  
 Were you there when Christ rose up from the tomb?

While many spirituals begin solemnly but end on a high pitch of praise, this is one of the true "sorrow songs" that W. E. B. DuBois spoke about in his book *The Souls of Black Folk*.

Tune: WERE YOU THERE Irr.  
 African-American spiritual  
 Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

# What Wondrous Love Is This

John 19:17; Rev. 5:13

19th century, United States; alt.  
First published in Mercer's Cluster, 1836

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What  
2 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to  
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is  
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; To God and to the  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And when from death I'm

this! that Christ should come in bliss to bear the heav-y cross for my  
Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme, I will  
free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!  
sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

*This anonymous folk hymn, with its modal (dorian) tune, has appeared in many versions. William Walker, compiler of Southern Harmony, one of the most important nineteenth-century tune books in the United States, lived and died in Spartanburg, South Carolina.*

Tune: WONDROUS LOVE 12.9.12.12.9.  
(CHRISTOPHER)  
*Appendix to Wm. Walker's Southern Harmony, c. 1843  
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993*