



Good Friday Service

April 18, 2025

God's Word Gives Our Lives Direction



Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Pastor John Knoester

April 18, 2025 – Good Friday Service – 7 PM

* Tonight's service will proceed unannounced.

We Gather to Meet God

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Song: LUYH #177 v. 1-4 *"Oh, to See the Dawn"*

1. Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then
nailed to a cross of wood.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
2. Oh, to see the pain written on Your face
bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Every bitter thought, every evil deed
crowning Your blood stained brow.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.
3. Now the daylight flees,
now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
finished the vict'ry cry.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,
for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live,
won through Your selfless love.
This the power of the cross:
Son of God slain for us.
What a name, what a cost,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

*"The Power of the Cross" Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend,
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* Call to Worship

* Our Declaration of Trust, and God's Greeting

Leader: Congregation of Jesus Christ,
in whom are you trusting?

**People: Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the name
of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

* Hymn of Response: LUYH #170 v. 1-4

"Man of Sorrows – What a Name"

(During the singing of the last verse the choir is invited forward)

1. Man of sorrows— what a name
for the Son of God,
who came ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
2. Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood,
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
3. Guilty, helpless, lost were we;
blameless Lamb of God was he,
sacrificed to set us free:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

4. He was lifted up to die;
“It is finished” was his cry;
now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!
Words: Philip P. Bliss, 1875, alt., P.D

The Service of Shadows

The Shadow of the Upper Room

Scripture Reading: John 13:1-17 and Matthew 26:26-30

Ministry of Music: *“He Loved Me to the End” - Choir*
(Following the choir hymn the elders serving communion
are invited forward)

We Meet Our Lord at His Table

(This model liturgy for the Lord’s Supper features a structure similar to the traditional Jewish Passover celebration, in which a young child asks the adults in the community about the meaning of the meal.)

Pastor: This is the Lord’s table.
Our Savior invites those who trust him
to share the feast that he has prepared.

Child: *Why do we give thanks and praise
before this table?*

**People: We give thanks for God’s work of creation,
liberation, and salvation.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and delight,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks to you, O holy Lord, eternal God.
You created the heavens and the earth
and all that is in them; you made us
in your own image; and in countless ways
you show us your mercy.
Therefore, with choirs of angels
and the whole company of heaven,
we worship and adore your glorious name,
joining our voices in their unending praise:

**People (spoken): Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: All glory and blessing are yours, O holy God,
for in your mercy you gave your only Son,
Jesus Christ. He took our human nature
and suffered death on the cross
for our redemption. There he made
a perfect sacrifice for the sins
for the whole world.
We praise you that before he suffered
and died, our Savior gave us this
holy sacrament and commanded us
to continue it until he comes again.

Child: Why do we eat bread at this table?

Pastor: On the night before he died,
Jesus took bread. After giving thanks,
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying, "Take, eat. This is my body,
given for you. Do this in remembrance
of me."

Child: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

Pastor: The same night Jesus took the cup, saying,
"This cup is the new covenant sealed
in my blood, shed for you
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Child: What do we remember at this table?

Pastor: We remember God's gracious love for us,
Christ's death and resurrection for us, and
the Spirit's tender care for us.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

- People:** **Dying, you destroyed our death;
rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**
- Pastor:** Merciful God, pour out your Holy Spirit
on these gifts of bread and wine,
that in eating and drinking we may be
made one with Christ and one another.
- All:** **Amen.**
- Pastor:** All who are truly sorry for their sins,
who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus
as their Savior, and who desire to live
in obedience to him, are now invited
with gladness to the table of the Lord!

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Songs (*As the elements are being served*)

◆ LUYH #155 v. 1-4 *"As He Gathered at His Table"*

1. As he gathered at his table
those who longed to know the way,
Christ proclaimed a holy mystery;
still his words call us today.
2. As he took the towel and basin,
not as master but as friend,
Christ portrayed the way of service;
still in serving we must bend.
3. As he blessed the bread and broke it,
human need to satisfy,
Christ made even traitors welcome;
still we question, "Is it I?"
4. As he took the cup and shared it,
telling of the Father's care,
Christ poured out himself in promise;
still that covenant we must share.

Words: Paul A. Richardson, 1986, © 1990 The Hymn Society, admin.
Hope Publishing Company

◆ LUYH #825 *"Beneath the Cross"* v. 1-3

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus,
I find a place to stand,
and wonder at such mercy
that calls me as I am.
For hands that should discard me
hold wounds which tell me, "Come."
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
my unworthy soul is won.
2. Beneath the cross of Jesus,
his family is my own.
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,
now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor
the ones that you have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
see the children called by God.
3. Beneath the cross of Jesus,
the path before the crown,
we follow in his footsteps
where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us
to be his perfect bride.
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
we will gladly live our lives.

Words: Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty © 2006 Thankyou Music (PRS),
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◆ LUYH #844 v. 1-5 *"Lift Up Your Hearts Unto the Lord"*

1. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord,
lift up your hearts unto the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
lift up your hearts unto the Lord!
2. In Christ the world has been redeemed,
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
in Christ the world has been redeemed.

3. His resurrection sets us free,
his resurrection sets us free.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
his resurrection sets us free.
4. Therefore we celebrate the feast,
therefore we celebrate the feast.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
therefore we celebrate the feast.
5. Sing alleluia to the Lord,
Sing alleluia to the Lord.
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia;
Sing alleluia to the Lord.

Words: st. 1-4 from early Christian liturgy; st. 5 Linda Stassen, 1974, © 1974
Linda Stassen; Music: Linda Stassen, 1974; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1986, ©
1974, 1986 Linda Stassen; CCLI #678905

Sharing of the Bread and Cup:

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me
will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me
will never be thirsty." (John 6:35)

Take, eat, remember and believe that the body
of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Take, drink, remember and believe the precious blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness
of all our sins.

Response of Praise and Prayer

Worthy is the lamb, who was slain, to receive power
and wealth and wisdom and strength, and honor and glory
and praise!

Scripture Reading: Luke 20:9-19

Meditation: *"The Parable of the Tenants"*

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: “*Cornerstone*” v. 1-3

1. My hope is built on nothing less,
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Repeat Verse 1

Chorus

*Christ alone. Cornerstone.
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.*

2. When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

3. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone.
Faultless stand before the throne.

Chorus (2x)

Words by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and Edward Mote;
Music by Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, Eric Liljero, and William Batchelder
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Publishing); CCLI #678905

The Shadow of Prediction

Scripture Reading: John 13:31-38

Song of Response: “*How Deep the Father's Love For Us*” v. 1,3

1. How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns His face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

3. I will not boast in anything:
no gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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The Shadow of the Garden

Scripture Readings: Luke 22:39-46, Luke 22:47-53

Hymn of Response: LUYH #161 v. 1-2 *“Go to Dark Gethsemane”*

1. Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter’s power;
your Redeemer’s conflict see,
watch with him one bitter hour:
turn not from his griefs away—
teach us, Lord, how we should pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall,
view the Lord of life arraigned.
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss—
help us, Lord, to bear our cross.

*Words: James Montgomery, 1825, alt., P.D.; Music: Richard Redhead, 1853, P.D.;
CCLI #678905*

The Shadow of Denial

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:69-75

Hymn of Response: LUYH #172 v. 1-2

“Ah, Holy Jesus, How Have You Offended”

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected,
O most afflicted!

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you;
I crucified you.

Words: Johann Heermann, 1630; tr. Robert Bridges, 1899, alt., P.D.; Music:
Johann Crüger, 1640, P.D. CCLI #678905

The Shadow of Accusation

Scripture Readings: John 18:28-40, John 19:1-11

Hymn of Response: LUYH #162 v. 1-2

"To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord"

1. To mock your reign, O dearest Lord,
they made a crown of thorns,
set you with taunts along that road
from which no one returns.
They could not know, as we do now,
how glorious is that crown,
that thorns would flower upon your brow,
your sorrows heal our own.
2. In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord,
they snatched a purple cloak,
your passion turned, for all they cared
into a soldier's joke.
They could not know, as we do now,
that though we merit blame,
you will your robe of mercy throw
around our naked shame.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1973, © 1973 Hope Publishing Company; Music: tradition-
al English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), 1906, P.D. CCLI #678905

The Shadow of Humiliation and Mockery

Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:27-44

Hymn of Response: LUYH #168 v. 1-2

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

1. O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory
and blessing you have known!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I claim you as my own.

2. My Lord, what you did suffer
was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but yours the deadly pain.
So here I kneel, my Savior,
for I deserve your place;
look on me with your favor
and save me by your grace.

Words: Latin, medieval; German tr. Paul Gerhardt, 1656; English tr. James W. Alexander, 1830, alt., P.D.; Music: Hans Leo. Hassler, 1601; adapt. and harm. Johann S. Bach in St. Matthew Passion, 1729, P.D.; CCLI #678905

The Shadow of Crucifixion

Scripture Reading: Luke 23:44-49

Hymn of Response: LUYH #164 v. 1-2

"What Wondrous Love"

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?
2. When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down;
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

The Shadow of Death

Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:45-54

Hymn of Response: LUYH #175 v. 1-3

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

1. When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through his blood.

Sing acapella

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707, P.D.; Music: Lowell Mason, 1824, P.D. CCLI #678905

The Christ Candle is Removed

(All overhead lights are blackened and there is time of silence as the Christ candle is removed. Then, out of the darkness, an unaccompanied soloist sings two verses of "Were You There" (PH #377 v. 1,3). This is followed by a longer time of silence that is very gradually broken by a loud sound signifying the tumult of the earth and the rending of curtain at Christ's death. Coming right out of this, the organ leads into the final hymn, the last verse of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." The Christ candle is then restored as we anticipate Christ's resurrection, and we silently leave with his blessing.)

The Christ Candle is Removed

Solo Response: *"Were You There" v. 1,3*

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
"Were You There"; Public Domain

Time of Silence

Sound Symbolizing the Tumult of the Earth

* Hymn: LUYH #175 v. 4 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

* Dismissal

Leader: May Jesus Christ, who for our sake
 became obedient to death,
 even death on a cross,
 keep you and strengthen you.

All: Amen.

* We Depart in Silence