



# GOOD FRIDAY

**APRIL 3, 2026**

Bethel Lutheran Church - In-person and Online

YouTube: @bethelmpls



In gratitude, Bethel Lutheran Church amplifies God's grace, nourishes all creation, reaches out, and builds community.

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Why a Public Church? To impact and enhance the community so that everyone feels a sense of love and belonging.

## GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2026, 7:00PM

We welcome to the Lord's Table all people, without exception, who desire to receive the blessings of Christ's body and blood in this sacramental meal of bread and wine. If you are online, please prepare your own table with bread, wine, and/or a treat for anyone not receiving communion.

***Boldface font indicates congregational response.***

*Worship leaders will indicate when to stand and sit, as you are able.*

### GATHERING

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#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

#### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, **look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Taize 39

"We Adore You, Jesus Christ"

A - do - ra - mus te Chris - te, be - ne - di - ci - mus ti - bi,  
 We a - dore you, Je - sus Christ, and we bless your ho - ly name;

A F#m Bm C# A B C# F#m ,

qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum,  
 tru - ly your cross and pas - sion bring us life and heal - ing,

qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum.  
 tru - ly your cross and pas - sion bring us life and heal - ing.

**WORD**

**Lesson**

"The Suffering of the Servant of the Lord"

*adapted from Isaiah 52:13 - 53:9*

Pastor

You will prosper, O Jesus, you will be raised up and highly exalted.

**Pulpit side**

**Even as the crowds were appalled after seeing you, Jesus—you were so disfigured as to no longer look human—so will the crowds be shocked at you, and rulers will stand speechless before you;**

**Lectern side**      **for they will see something never told and witnessed,  
something never heard.**

Pastor                Who would have believed what we have just heard? When  
was the arm of the Lord revealed in you, Jesus?

**Pulpit side**        **You grew up like a sapling before us, like a root in parched  
soil!**

**Lectern side**        **You had no stately form or majesty to make us look at  
you, there was no beauty to attract us.**

Pastor                You were rejected and despised by all; you know suffering  
intimately, and you are acquainted with sickness.

**Pulpit side**        **When we saw you, we turned our faces away;**

**Lectern side**        **We despised you and did not value you.**

Pastor                Yet, loving Jesus, you bore our illnesses and carried our  
suffering.

**Pulpit side**        **We thought you were being punished, struck down by God,  
and brought low—**

**Lectern side**        **but it was out of love that you were pierced, for our lives that  
you were crushed;**

Pastor                upon you lies a judgment that brings us wholeness, and  
through your grace we are healed.

**All**                    **All of us, like sheep, have gone astray; each of us goes our  
own way. But the Lord has laid upon Jesus the guilt of us all.**

Pastor                Though treated harshly, you bore it humbly and never opened  
your mouth.

**Pulpit side**        **Like a lamb being led to slaughter, or a sheep before  
shearers, you were silent and never opened your mouth.**

**Lectern side**        **Seized by force and condemned, you were taken away; who**

## would ever have foreseen your destiny?

Pastor Jesus, you were taken from the land of the living through the sin and misguided power of my people, who deserved the punishment.

**All You were buried with evildoers and entombed with the rich, though you had done no wrong, and deceit was not found in your mouth.**

**Hymn #349**

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

Vs 1-3

### **THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE**

*The observance of our Lord’s death by reciting Scriptural texts and singing anthems within a gradually-darkening sanctuary is a Holy Week devotion which began in medieval times.*

*The service is divided into three “Nocturns,” each of which begins with song, continues with the reading of three lessons from the history of our Lord’s Passion, and concludes with a whispered Lord’s Prayer and the tolling of the bell.*

*Fourteen of the fifteen candles at the front of the church are extinguished during the course of the service. Only the center candle, the “Christ Candle,” remains lit, although it is hidden for a time to symbolize the time our Lord spent in the tomb. At the sound of a loud, harsh noise, called a “strepitus,” it is replaced in its central position. Thus the faithful, who are remembering Christ’s death in sorrow, are also dramatically reminded that Christ has overcome sin through resurrection.*

*At the conclusion of the service the church will be completely dark. Following the final song, worshippers are asked to leave the church building silently, speaking to no one. The solemn mood is appropriately maintained through Holy Saturday until we celebrate the feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday morning.*

## FIRST NOCTURN

### Taize 30

“Wait for the Lord”

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 2/2 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first system is marked *p* and contains the lyrics: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second system is marked *mf* and contains the lyrics: "Wait for the Lord: keep watch, — take heart!" The score includes various musical notations such as chords, rests, and a fermata over the word "watch".

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, — take heart!

*The first candle is extinguished.*

### First Reading

Jesus Before the High Priest  
*The second candle is extinguished.*

Mark 14:53-65

### Second Reading

Simon Peter Denies Jesus  
*The third candle is extinguished.*

Mark 14:66-72

### Third Reading

Jesus Is Handed Over to Pilate  
*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

Mark 15:1-5

### Lord's Prayer

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

*whispered by all*

### Tolling of the Bell



*The eleventh candle is extinguished.*

**Seventh Reading**

Cloak, Mary, and Thirst

John 19:23-28

*The twelfth candle is extinguished.*

**Eighth Reading**

Jesus Dies and Is Speared in the Side

John 19:29-37

*The thirteenth candle is extinguished.*

**Ninth Reading**

Jesus Is Buried

John 19:38-42

*The fourteenth candle is extinguished.*

**Lord's Prayer**

*whispered by all*

**Tolling of the Bell**

**Litany**

*Please repeat after Pastor*

*~ a period of silence follows ~*

**Solo**

"Were You There?"

Arr. C. R. Thoburn

***Please leave in silence, speaking to no one.***

**Our worship continues on Easter morning.**