

Good Friday – Tenebrae Vespers

April 3, 2026

The congregation and pastor enter in silence.

Stand

Opening Versicles

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Sit

Psalmody

Psalms 22

Psalm 22; choir

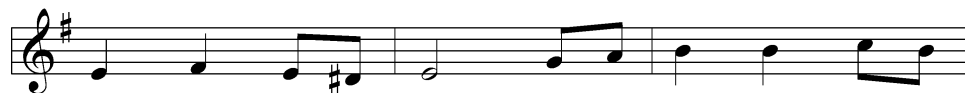
451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the
2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like
3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil
4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my
His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -
great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its
lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the



soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed
sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to
guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -
name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners



Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord; Proofs I
wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the
point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the
wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall



see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.
deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.
Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

453 Upon the Cross Extended



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
 2 Come, see these things and pon - der, Your soul will
 3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so
 4 I caused Your grief and sigh - ing By e - vils



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
 fill with won - der As blood streams from each pore.
 sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?
 mul - ti - ply - ing As count - less as the sands.



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
 Through grief be - yond all know - ing From His great heart came
 We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -
 I caused the woes un - num - bered With which Your soul is



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
 flow - ing Sighs well - ing from its deep - est core.
 gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.
 cum - bered, Your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
 Your head with thorns surrounded,
 You died to ransom me.
 The cross for me enduring,
 The crown for me securing,
 You healed my wounds and set me free.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
 Bind me to You forever,
 I am no longer mine.
 To You I gladly tender
 All that my life can render
 And all I have to You resign.

7 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.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
 Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517
 Text and tune: Public domain

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

sts. 1-3



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weigh-ed down,
 2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!
 3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fer-ed Was all for sin - ners' gain;



Now scorn - ful - ly sur-round-ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.
 How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!
 Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!
 Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.
 Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.
 Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612
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John 19:1-16a

A candle is extinguished.

450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

sts. 4-7



4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard-ian, own me Thine.
 5 What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend,
 6 My Sav - ior, be Thou near me When death is at my door;
 7 Be Thou my con - so - la - tion, My shield, when I must die;



Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.
 For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?
 Then let Thy pres - ence cheer me, For - sake me nev - er - more!
 Re - mind me of Thy pas - sion When my last hour draws nigh.



Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;
 O make me Thine for - ev - er! And should I faint - ing be,
 When soul and bod - y lan - guish, O leave me not a - lone,
 Mine eyes shall then be - hold Thee, Up - on Thy cross shall dwell,



Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, Out - live my love for Thee.
 But take a - way mine an - guish By vir - tue of Thine own!
 My heart by faith en - fold Thee. Who di - eth thus dies well.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612
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7 O Jesus Christ,
 Who sacrificed
 Thy life for lifeless mortals:
 Be my life in death and bring
 Me to heaven's portals!

Text (st. 1): Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635; (st. 1): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–7): Johann Rist, 1607–67; (sts. 2–7): tr. Joseph Herl, 1959
 Tune: Himmlische Harmony, 1628, Mainz
 Text (sts. 2–7): © Joseph Herl. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003065
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Sermon

Stand

986 Song of Habakkuk



- ¹ O LORD, I have heard the re- | port of You,*
 and Your work, O LORD, | do I fear.
- ² In the midst of the years revive it; in the midst of the years | make it known,*
 in wrath remember | mercy.

Refrain

- ³ God came from | Teman,*
 and the Holy One from Mount | Paran.
- ⁴ His splendor covered the | heavens,*
 and the earth was full | of His praise.
- ⁵ His brightness was like the light; rays flashed | from His hand,*
 and there He | veiled His power.
- ⁶ Before Him went | pestilence,*
 and plague followed | at His heels.
- ⁷ He stood and mea- | sured the earth;*
 He looked and shook the | nations;
- ⁸ then the eternal mountains were scattered; the everlasting hills | sank low.*
 His were the ever- | lasting ways.

Refrain

- ⁹ You went out for the salvation of Your | people,*
 for the salvation of Your a- | noointed.
- ¹⁰ You crushed the head of the house of the | wicked,*
 laying him bare from | thigh to neck.
- ¹¹ Yet I will rejoice | in the LORD;*
 I will take joy in the God of my sal- | vation.

¹² God, the LORD, is my strength; He makes my feet | like the deer's;*
He makes me tread on my high | places.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Refrain

Text: Habakkuk 3:1-6, 13, 18-19
Tune: Phillip Magness, 1963
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Kneel/Stand

Prayers

P Lord, have mercy.
C Lord, have mercy.

P Christ, have mercy.
C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.
C Lord, have mercy.

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.**

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

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.
C Amen.

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.

The final candle is extinguished.

The congregation leaves in silence and minimal light.

Acknowledgments

Good Friday, Tenebrae Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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