

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to our Good Friday Tenebrae Service. The word Tenebrae comes from the Latin word for “darkness” and is a unique service to Christianity as we remember what Jesus Christ has done for us through his life and his death. By extinguishing lights throughout the service and reading the scriptures of Jesus’ seven last words from the cross, let us remember and reflect together that Christ has come, the light of the world, but the world has loved the darkness and still tries to extinguish his light.

### Opening Prayer

(in unison)

Jesus,

Today we pause to remember your sacrificial love

That shone light into the darkness

That bore life from such emptiness

That revealed hope out of devastation

That spoke truth through incrimination

That released freedom in spite of imprisonment

And brought us forgiveness instead of punishment.

Thank you that we can now walk in the light of your life,

Hope, truth, freedom and forgiveness,

This day and everyday. Amen.

### Scripture Readings

**Matthew 27:27-31** <sup>27</sup> Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup> They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. “Hail, king of the Jews!” they said. <sup>30</sup> They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup> After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.”

**Isaiah 53:1-6** <sup>1</sup> Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? <sup>2</sup> He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. <sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

\*Congregational Hymn #359

“Alas and did My Savior Bleed” vs. 1-3

### Offering/Offertory

### Prayer

**Matthew 27:38-44** <sup>38</sup> Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>39</sup> Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads <sup>40</sup> and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” <sup>41</sup> In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. <sup>42</sup> “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! He’s the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup> He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” <sup>44</sup> In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

**Luke 23:32-35, 39-43** <sup>32</sup> Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. <sup>34</sup> Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. <sup>35</sup> The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”... <sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup> Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

### Message:

Rev. Kari Howard

#### Who Can Save Us?

#### Series: Stepping Stone or Stumbling Block

#### The Seven Last Words of Jesus From the Cross

##### The First Word

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

Luke 23:34

Hymn: #297 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

##### The Second Word

“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Luke 23:43

Hymn: #301 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross vs. 1 and 3

##### The Third Word

Jesus said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple he said, “Here is your mother.”

John 19:26-27

Hymn: #288 Were You There vs. 1 and 2

##### The Fourth Word

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34

Hymn: #298 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**The Fifth Word**

*"I thirst."*

John 19:28

**Hymn:** #362 Nothing But the Blood vs. 1 and 3

**The Sixth Word**

*"It is finished."*

John 19:30

**Hymn:** #504 The Old Rugged Cross vs. 1 and 3

**The Seventh Word**

*Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."  
When he said this, he breathed his last."*

Luke 23:46

**Hymn:** O Sacred Head Now Wounded by video

**Benediction and Closing Prayer**

*(1 Peter 3:18, NLT) "18 Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God."*

**Depart in silence**

(You are welcome to come to the altar or remain in your seats to reflect and pray. It is requested that you leave in silence, take your time to leave but leave in silence.)

**MESSAGE NOTES:**

**1. Stumbling Block: Different Gospel accounts \_\_\_\_\_ together equals a \_\_\_\_\_ understanding.**

**2. Stepping Stone: Jesus had to \_\_\_\_\_ his life in order to \_\_\_\_\_ our lives.**

**3. We can \_\_\_\_\_ to believe and \_\_\_\_\_ on life with Jesus.**

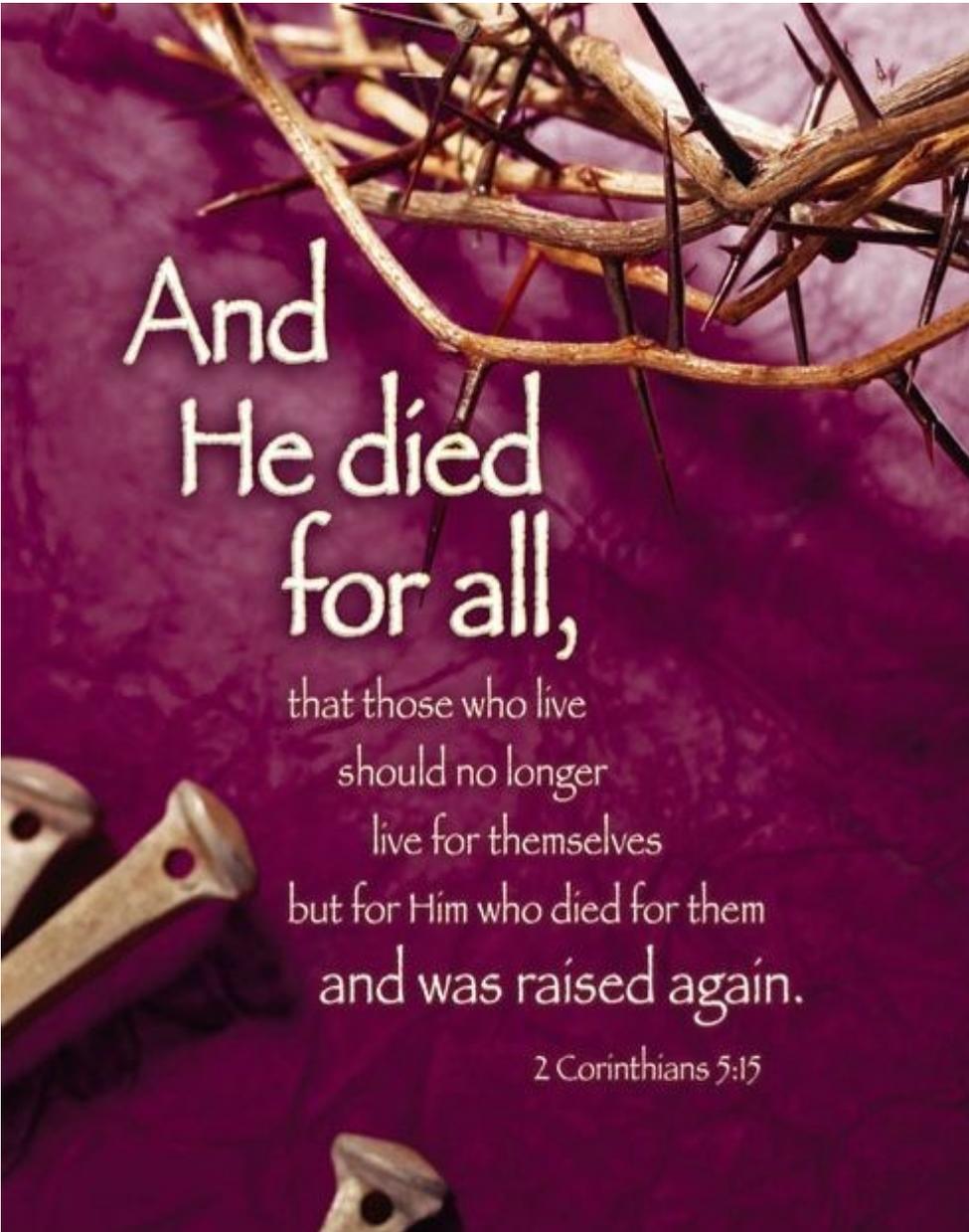
*Luke 23:39-41 <sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."*

**4. We can \_\_\_\_\_ and believe and \_\_\_\_\_ life with Jesus.**

*Luke 23:42-43 <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."*

**Please join us Easter Sunday, April 1st!  
7AM Sunrise Service with breakfast following  
9:45AM Sunday School  
11AM Worship**

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**West Bend United Methodist Church**

**Good Friday Service**

**March 30, 2018 at 7PM**