

Together in Christ, Empowered to be and Make Disciples.



*Broken and Beloved:
Stories of God's Steadfast
Love*

***The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and
saves the crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18***

***THEN JESUS GAVE A
LOUD CRY AND BREATHED
HIS LAST. AND THE
CURTAIN OF THE TEMPLE
WAS TORN IN TWO, FROM
TOP TO BOTTOM.
MARK 15:37-38***

Good Friday

April 18, 2025 6:15pm

Find Strength and Hope in the Cross

It is difficult as we kneel before the cross to hear the voice of the gospel. We might imagine that it waits for us at Eastertide, that tonight the law says its peace and come Sunday the gospel will finally win the day, but that is not so. The gospel spells freedom for those held captive to sin.

The resurrection only matters for those who know they are dead.



Welcome (VOCARE: “to call”)

We gather in silence as we ready our hearts and minds to focus as we transition from Maundy Thursday into Good Friday.

Hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” ELW 351 (vs.1-2)

Call to Worship

Christ is with you.

And also with you.

We come together at the eve of the day, trusting that God is near to the broken-hearted and brings shalom to those whose spirits are crushed. We carry with us all the seasons of our lives – lives marked by joy and sorrow, peace and conflict, ease and distress, brokenness and beloved-ness.

Meet us here, Oh Christ. Strengthen us, renew us, nourish us in your call for our lives, and bring us shalom.

We come to reflect on our values and consider how they inform our actions and decisions.

May we be mindful of what we truly value in life and how our values are reflected in our choices.

We come to be open to the ways in which God is calling us, and how we can respond with faith and courage.

May we be open to the movements of the Spirit and ready to follow where God leads.

We come to be aware of the many and varied voices that call to us each day, listening especially for those voices that are life giving and life-sustaining.

May we be discerning in the voices that form and shape us, heeding those that build up and turning away from those that tear down.

We come to practice attentiveness, focusing our minds on God's presence in our lives, and seeking divine guidance and wisdom.

May we be attentive to the holy and receptive to the wisdom and guidance of God.

We come to name any regrets we may have, seeking forgiveness and renewal as we move forward.

May we find healing and renewed purpose as we seek and receive God's forgiveness.

We come to be mindful of experiences of God's presence in new and profound ways.

May we be receptive to the ways in which the divine is revealed to us, and may we be transformed by these encounters.

We come to worship together, opening ourselves fully to the love and presence of God. **Amen.**

Values (Scripture)

As we prepare to hear the Word of God, we reflect on our values. Our values are what we hold dear and what we prioritize in life. They inform our actions and decisions, and shape who we are and who we are becoming.

(silence for reflection)

We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of the Word, asking God to speak to us through the Holy Scriptures.

Openness (Centering)

As the seasons rise and fall in our lives and in the life of the whole world, we open our hearts to God's leading, and ask God to help us be receptive and responsive to God's calling in our lives. We sing together:



Centering Song Song of the Seasons

The musical score is written on ten staves in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are as follows:

In your hands — you hold the sun and moon and stars —
They rise and fall Be - cause of who you are. —
Sea - sons will change. And they al - ways will.
Sea - sons will change. But your faith - ful - ness ne - ver will;
Spring or sum - mer win - ter or fall
you are there with us through it all.
Ev - ry sea - son Ev - ry day You are with us
all - the way! Sea - sons will change.

Call (Reflection Monologue)

Through the sharing of the Word, you have called us, O God.

Lead us by your Spirit to live out this call.

Attentiveness (Prayer)

Ever watchful Lord,

Your steadfast love never ceases, and your mercies are new every morning. As we gather this evening under your watchful presence, we pray for the grace to be more attentive to your presence in our lives.

For the church universal, that our leaders and members may be attuned to the whispers of your Spirit, we pray:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the world and its leaders, that they may be attentive to the needs of the marginalized and act with justice and compassion, we pray:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our community, that we may notice those in need and respond with kindness and empathy, we pray:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For ourselves, that we may be fully present in each moment, aware of your persistent love and guidance, we pray:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are suffering, that they may feel your comforting presence and know they are not alone, we pray:
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
(Other petitions may be added)

Lord, grant us the grace to be attentive to your voice amidst the noise of the world. Help us to be present, to notice, and to respond to your call in our lives. **Amen.**

Regrets (Confession)

Gracious God, We gather before you, acknowledging our human frailty and our need for your grace. We bring our full selves to you – in all our brokenness and beloved-ness, seeking your shalom. In this moment of confession, we bring our regrets, the actions we wish we could undo, the words we wish we could unsay.

We confess that we have not always lived in accordance with your will. We have chosen our own way over yours, and we have caused harm to ourselves and others. **We carry the weight of these regrets, Lord.**

We confess the times we have closed our hearts to your love, the times we have turned away from our neighbor in need, the times we have neglected the care of your creation. **For these, and all our regrets, known and unknown, we seek your forgiveness.**

In your great mercy, Lord, forgive us. Heal the wounds of our past mistakes and free us from the burden of regret. Grant us the courage to seek reconciliation, and the wisdom to learn from our past. **Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of Almighty God, Father +Son, and Holy Spirit, Beloved Ones, your sins are forgiven in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Mosaic Processional "Were You There" ELW 353

Prayer for our Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

As God's Beloved Ones, covered by God's promise of shalom, we practice *VOCARE* as we prepare to end this day and look toward tomorrow.
We acknowledge our values, and seek to live in accordance with them, following the example of Christ.

We strive to be open to the new ideas and opportunities for growth that the Holy Spirit may bring.
Grant us the grace to be receptive to your guidance and to step boldly into the unknown.

We listen for the call of our deepest selves and respond with courage and faith, trusting in God.
Help us to discern your voice amidst the noise of the world, and to be your faithful disciples.

We cultivate attentiveness to the present moment, where we encounter the divine in our daily lives.

May we find you in unexpected places and moments, and be mindful of your presence around us.

We face our regrets with compassion, seeking the insight they offer and the grace of forgiveness.

Give us the strength to learn from our mistakes and to reconcile with those we have wronged.

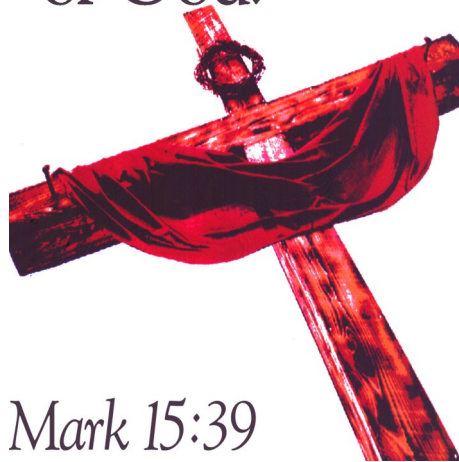
And we give thanks for the ways we have experienced God's presence in our lives today and every day.

For your constant love and provision, we give you thanks and praise. In the name of +Jesus, Amen.

Hymn "Ah, Holy Jesus" ELW 349

Offering may be placed in the offering plates in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

“Truly this man
was the Son
of God!”



Mark 15:39

This is the promise of Good Friday:

We will be liberated from these crosses—the ones we hang on and the ones on which we hang one another. These crosses, at once symbols of the divisions between us and a symbol of

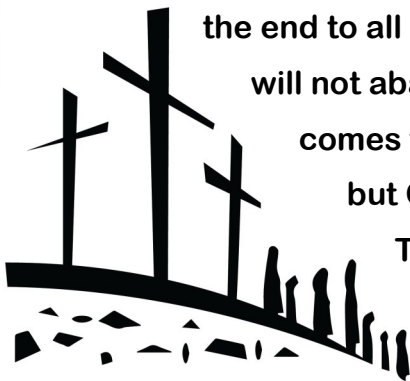
the end to all divisions, promise that God

will not abandon us in our suffering. God

comes to us just like this, just as we are,

but God does not leave us this way.

This is the cross—evidence of our sin, and sign of God's love.



Holy Week 2025

Maundy Thursday, April 17th,
6:15pm

He took a Towel
John 13:3-15; 34,35

Good Friday, April 18th, 6:15pm

Torn in Two
Mark 15:21-41

Holy Saturday-
The Day of Resurrection
While it was still Dark
John 20: 1-18

Jesus is Risen! Happy Easter!
Sunday, April 20th
8:00am & 10:15am

BROKEN and BELOVED