

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH BARTLETT, TX

Order of Service - Friday, March 29, 2024

Good Friday

Introduction

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

Gathering (ELW p. 262)

All gather in silence. The assembly stands when the ministers stand.

Prayer of the Day (ELW p. 262)

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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.

Hymn - Go to Dark Gethsemane - ELW Hymn #347

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13--53:12

A reading from Isaiah.

The fourth servant poem promises ultimate vindication for the servant, who made his life an offering for sin. The servant pours himself out to death and is numbered with the transgressors, images that the early church saw as important keys for understanding the death of Jesus.

¹³ See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

¹⁴ Just as there were many who were astonished at him
—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals—

¹⁵ so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

^{53:1} Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

² For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴ Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹ They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹ Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 22

Refrain: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)

¹My God, my God, why have you for-¹saken me? Why so far from saving me, so far from the words¹ of my groaning?

²**My God, I cry out by day, but you¹ do not answer; by night, but I¹ find no rest.**

³Yet you are the¹ Holy One, enthroned on the prais-¹es of Israel.

⁴**Our ancestors put their¹ trust in you, they trusted, and you¹ rescued them.**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

⁵They cried out to you and¹ were delivered; they trusted in you and were not¹ put to shame.

⁶**But as for me, I am a worm¹ and not human, scorned by all and despised¹ by the people.**

⁷All who see me laugh¹ me to scorn; they curl their lips; they¹ shake their heads.

⁸**“Trust in the LORD; let the¹ LORD deliver; let God rescue him if God so de-¹lights in him.”**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

⁹Yet you are the one who drew me forth¹ from the womb, and kept me safe on my¹ mother’s breast.

¹⁰**I have been entrusted to you ever since¹ I was born; you were my God when I was still in my¹ mother’s womb.**

¹¹Be not far from me, for trou-¹ble is near, and there is no¹ one to help.

¹²**Many young bulls en-¹circle me; strong bulls of Ba-¹shan surround me.**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

¹³They open wide their¹ jaws at me, like a slashing and¹ roaring lion.

¹⁴**I am poured out like water; all my bones are¹ out of joint; my heart within my breast is¹ melting wax.**

¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof¹ of my mouth; and you have laid me in the¹ dust of death.

¹⁶**Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers¹ circles round me; they pierce my hands¹ and my feet.**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

¹⁷I can count¹ all my bones while they stare at¹ me and gloat.

¹⁸**They divide my gar-¹ments among them; for my clothing,¹ they cast lots.**

¹⁹ But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰ **Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.**

²¹ Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²² **I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

²³ You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴ **For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶ **The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸ **For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

²⁹ Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰ **Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹ They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

R: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:16-25

A reading from Hebrews.

In the death of Jesus, forgiveness of sins is accomplished and access to God is established.

Hence, when we gather together for worship and when we love others, we experience anew the benefits of Jesus' death.

[After the Holy Spirit says,] ¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"

¹⁷ he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 263)

Look to Jesus, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame,* and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb. 12:2)

Cross Project Introduced

As we read the Gospel, I invite you to reflect upon the brokenness we see in the world around us. This brokenness is visible in the crucifixion of Jesus. Therefore, I invite you to take some flash paper and write the brokenness you have witnessed (i.e.: “Cancer” “Dementia” “Inflation”). When finished, I invite you to bring the paper forward, use tongs to hold it over the flame, and watch the paper disappear. May we trust that the power of brokenness will disappear through Christ’s death.

(For those participating online, you can substitute regular paper for flash paper. I invite you to share what you have written with others.)

The congregation observes a moment of silence in preparation for the Gospel. People may remain seated as the Gospel is read unless they are helping with the cross project.

Gospel: John 18:1--19:42

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

On Good Friday, the story of Jesus’ passion—from his arrest to his burial—is read in its entirety from the Gospel of John.

¹[Jesus] went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden... ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Silence for prayer and reflection follows the reading.

Sermonette (ELW p. 263) - Pastor Jeremy Ullrich

Silence for reflection follows the sermonette.

Hymn of the Day - O God, Why Are You Silent - ELW Hymn #703

Bidding Prayer (ELW p. 263)

The assembly kneels or sits. The assisting minister leads the invitations to prayer (the bids). Silence for prayer follows each bid. The presiding minister leads the prayers that conclude the silence.

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God...

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The liturgy is repeated, ending with the Lord's Prayer.

Let us pray...

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

**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.**

Procession of the Cross (ELW p. 264)

The cross is carried in procession to the back of the sanctuary.. The assembly stands and faces the cross as it is moved.

The cross is revered at the front of the sanctuary.

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which the Savior of the whole world was hung.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

The cross is processed to the middle of the sanctuary.

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which the Savior of the whole world was hung.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

The cross is processed to the back of the sanctuary.

P: Behold the life-giving cross on which the Savior of the whole world was hung.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

After a brief silence, the presiding minister continues.

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

All depart in silence, and are invited to reverence the cross as they exit.

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 29th - Good Friday

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Lector: Coley Bruggman, Weldon Kurtz, Garrett Kurtz
Usher Captain: Darrell Marek
Ushers: April Marek, Dustin & Amanda Harper
Greeters: Robert & Dorothy Marwitz
Altar Care: Judy Gersbach & Joey Saverse
Teller Captain: Imogen Morris
Teller: Deborah Martin and Krisit Dague

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 31st-Sunrise

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Communion Asst. Glen Janke
Usher: Tim Steglich
Teller: Cedralia Kurtz

OFFICIATING & SERVING - March 31- Easter

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst. Wayne Zieschang
Communion Asst. Weldon Kurtz
Lector: Ronnie Persky
Usher Captain: Michael Kurtz
Ushers: Melinda Kurtz, Garrett Kurtz, Ricky Ranthum
Greeters: Duane and Sharon Kurtin
Altar Care: Frank & Connie Horak
Teller Captain: Jill Marwitz
Teller: Charles Gersbach & David Tschoerner

OFFICIATING & SERVING - April 7

Pastor: Jeremy Ullrich **Organist:** Debra Caldwell
Pastor Asst. Wayne Zieschang
Communion Asst. Lynn Stroud
Lector: Kristi Dague
Usher Captain: Duane Kurtin
Ushers: Sharon Kurtin, Scott Janke, Collin Randig
Greeters: Walt & Rita Saverse
Altar Care: Donna Campbell & Daffney Pajestka
Teller Captain: Judy Gersbach
Teller: Duane & Sharon Kurtin

OFFERING & ATTENDANCE

| | <u>Worship Attendance</u> | <u>Offering</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|--------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Mar 3 | 62 | \$4,167.00 | \$27,264.75 |
| Mar 6 | 12 | \$ 186.00 | \$27,450.75 |
| Mar 10 | 65 | \$3,908.00 | \$31,358.75 |
| Mar 13 | 26 | \$ 121.00 | \$31,479.75 |
| Mar 17 | 75 | \$2,660.00 | \$34,139.75 |
| Mar 20 | 20 | \$ 640.00 | \$34,779.75 |
| Mar 24 | 102 | \$4,178.00 | \$38,957.75 |

IN OUR PRAYERS

| | | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Garland Wentreck | Stanley Glaser | Janie Barron Lange | Eldon Lange |
| Celeste Gamrod | Pansy Lange | Janelle Janke | Risa Steglich |
| Darrell Kurtz(Twin Brother of Harold Kurtz) | | Ruth and Ray Janke | |
| Monica Blane(Pastor Daniel Blane's daughter) | | Gayle Bielss | |
| The Bartek family (friends of Alan and Retha) | | Sharon Randig | |
| James Chapman(Dorothy Marwitz's Brother-in-law) | | Kim Ferguson | |
| Josh Ramirez & Sheena Woods(friend of Sharon Randig) | | Garland Townsend | |
| Margie & Jeff Burton Family-Deborah Martin's friend | | Allen Persky's Family | |
| Jimmy Dubose-grandfather of Kendal & Jr Gersbach and Great-grandfather to Cayson & Barrett | | | |

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

Monday: Dominoes each Monday in TRC @ 2:00 pm
 Wednesday: Men's Bible Study each Wednesday in the TRC @ 7:30 am
 Thursday: Piece Makers meet each Thursday in the TRC @ 1:00 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Piecemakers Request

The Piecemakers have asked for any sewing, crocheting, knitting, and supplies for sewing quilts. This would include sewing machines, scissors, rotary cutters, fabric, thread, pins and needles or anything that pertains to quilting.

Pastoral Visits

We are encouraging those hospitalized, nursing home residents (or, their family members), and the homebound members and friends who wish to schedule an in-person pastoral visit or phone call to contact Pastor Jeremy Ullrich @ 979-421-3303 or the church office @ 254-527-3341.

NOTE: Pastor Ullrich will need to be listed as a "visitor of choice" in hospitals or nursing homes. This will need to be established by a family member.

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is at 9:15am in the TRC
 Youth Sunday School starts February 11 @9:30am.

Articles for the Newsletter

Please submit your articles for the monthly newsletter before the 19th of the month, as they are mailed out the following week. Thank you!

Prayer Requests

When you make a prayer request for a non-member, please provide the church office with contact information so that we can send them a card. Thank you.

Will-O-Bell Nursing Home Worship

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting the residents of our local nursing home! Through communion and a 30-minute hymn sing-along, please show these residents they are not forgotten by joining us on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Granger and on the third Thursday of each month at 10AM in Bartlett. Please come and make a resident smile.

Live Stream Learning

St. John has purchased a camcorder to help with our live stream. We are looking for tech-inclined volunteers interested in testing out different settings. We will use an apprenticeship model for training, so you will have a mentor helping as long as you wish. For more information, contact the church office (254-527-3341).

Martha's Circle Bible Study

Martha's Circle Bible Study 4th Wednesday of every month @ 10am, for more information contact Janice Atchison (254-721-8477).

Flag Donations

3x5 U.S. Flags with grommets are appreciated for our church. In memory of loved ones, you may donate flags, or make cash donations, at the church office. For further information contact Walt Saverse @ 254-770-8381, or contact the church office @ 254-527-3341.

Sisters in Christ Bible Study

The Sisters in Christ Bible study (Saturday Bible Study) is every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am They are studying a new series titled "Fierce" by Jennifer Cowart. The study covers lesser known ladies in the Bible and the ways they changed the world by living into God's calling.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets each Wednesday at 7:30am in the TRC..

Congregation

I want to thank everyone for their continued prayers, words of encouragement, cards and love sent to me. My family at St. John is amazing, as you continue to lift me up in prayer. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for making my days brighter and easier. God Bless You All, Celeste Gamrod .

Youth Sunday School

Youth Sunday School every Sunday. Class will begin at 9:30am and end at 10:15am. Youth ages 3 through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. We will sing, hear a Bible story and work on crafts. There is a need for volunteers. Anyone who can help in any way, please text Sharon Randig at 512-713-4433.

Childcare for Pastor's Children

My family is looking for childcare help. Specifically, we seek trustworthy and caring individuals to sit with the kids (7/5/3) for two to three hours while they watch their age-appropriate shows in our home. Our biggest needs are during the week, especially for Wednesday nights in Lent (Feb 14 to March 27). \$20 per hour. Super friendly family dog. Please call or text your interest or potential leads at 979-421-3303. Thank you in advance for blessing my family! -Pastor Jeremy Ullrich

Dominoes

Every Monday @ 2PM in the TRC– Domino games (42 and Straight)

Rose Garden

On April 14 after the worship service we will be celebrating Betty Wendler Rose Dedication with a light noon meal. All members are invited to attend.

Candy for Easter

We have a request for wrapped candy for the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning.

Flowers for Easter Cross

We need fresh flowers for Easter Sunday's Cross. Please bring them to Church on Saturday March 30.

Heart of Texas (HOT) Spring Gathering

The Spring Gathering will be held at Covenant Lutheran Church in Temple Texas on Saturday April 27, 2024 from 9 am to 1 pm. Registration forms are available in the TRC and are due April 1st. WELCA will cover the registration fees for those who attend. Please turn forms into the church office.