



# Good Friday

MARCH 29, 2024 at 6:30 PM

## **RETHINKING RELIGION: RETHINKING SACRIFICE**

In most religions the gods demand sacrifice. Followers are to surrender something of value to that god. Money. Time. Possessions. Some religions have even called for human sacrifice. Even people who think they aren't religious sacrifice to false gods. Take the man whose idol is success. What he wants most is to rise through the ranks at work. So, to pursue that idol, he sacrifices his family, spending little time with them. Throughout human history, false gods have expected you to die for them.

In Christianity you meet a God willing to die for you. Today we see that the true God does not make our relationship with him conditional on how much we sacrifice for him. Instead, we are at peace with God because he sacrificed himself for us. It is one reason why we call it "Good Friday."

**Opening Hymn: CW #127 "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"**

The hymn is printed in the back of this service folder.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.** *(All responses spoken)*

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

**By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.**

Remember his words,

**for they give us light.**

Remember his works,

**for they show us God's mercy.**

Remember his grace,

**for it is greater than our sin.**

Remember his glory,

**for it shines from the cross.**

Remember his pain,

**for he took it up willingly.**

Remember his sorrow,

**for it became our joy.**

Remember his life,  
**for it was perfect before God.**  
Remember his death,  
**for it was ours.**

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.  
**By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.**

**Hymn: CW #268** *“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”*

The hymn is printed in the  
back of this service folder.

### **Absolution**

In the name and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray...

God Most Holy, look with mercy on this, your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

**First Reading: Isaiah 52:13—53:12**

***It was the LORD's will to sacrifice his servant so that we might be justified.***

<sup>52:13</sup>See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

<sup>14</sup>Just as there were many who were appalled at him— his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness— <sup>15</sup>so he will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand. <sup>53:1</sup>Who has believed our message and to whom has the

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. <sup>7</sup>He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. <sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. <sup>9</sup>He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. <sup>10</sup>Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. <sup>11</sup>After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. <sup>12</sup>Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm of the Day: 22A** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (from the New Psalmody)

(PRINTED ON NEXT PAGE)

## 22A O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

### Refrain



O sa-cred head, now wound-ed, with grief and shame weighed down.

### Tone



My God, my God, why have you for- / saken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of / anguish?

I am a worm and / not a man,

scorned by everyone, despised by the / people.

All who see me / mock me;

they hurl insults, shaking / their heads.

"He trusts in the / LORD," they say,

"let the LORD / rescue him." *Refrain*

All my bones are / on display;

you lay me in the / dust of death.

A pack of villains en- / circles me;

they pierce my hands / and my feet.

They divide my clothes a- / mong them

and cast lots for my / garment.

But you, LORD, do not be / far from me.

You are my strength; come quickly to / help me.

**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***

**Second Reading: Hebrews 7:26–28**

***Jesus is a superior high-priest, for he offered a vastly superior sacrifice.***

<sup>26</sup>Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. <sup>27</sup>Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup>For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Isaiah 53:4**

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!




Glo - ry to you, Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ!

*Tone*



Surely he took up our pain and bore our suf - fer - ing,



yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and af - flict - ed. *Refrain*

**Gospel:** *John 19:17–30*

***Jesus is sacrificed on the cross.***

<sup>17</sup>Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). <sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. <sup>19</sup>Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.** <sup>20</sup>Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. <sup>21</sup>The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, “Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.” <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.” <sup>23</sup>When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. <sup>24</sup>“Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, “They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.” So this is what the soldiers did. <sup>25</sup>Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” <sup>27</sup>and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. <sup>28</sup>Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” <sup>29</sup>A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus’ lips. <sup>30</sup>When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Hymn: "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born" (Hymn #674 from the NEW Hymnal)



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born for us un -  
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh was i - con  
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came to God's own  
4 But death would not the vic - tor be of him who



ho - ly and for - lorn; from flesh - ly tem - ple  
of God's right - eous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought  
al - tar lit with flame; while weep - ing an - gels  
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the



forth came he, a - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.  
sanc - ti - ty; his hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.  
hid their eyes, this Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.  
Ho - ly Place with - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
as at the rail on bended knee  
our hungry mouths from him receive  
the bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
a priestly food and priestly meat;  
on sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
his quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim  
our voices join the endless hymn,  
and "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
to Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.



## SERMON

### Apostles' Creed—

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

M: Lord,

C: **have mercy.**

Christ,

**have mercy.**

Lord,

**have mercy.**

O Christ,

**hear us.**

God, the Father in heaven,

**have mercy on us.**

God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**have mercy on us.**

God, the Holy Spirit,

**have mercy on us.**

Be gracious to us.

**Spare us, good Lord.**

Be gracious to us.

**Help us, good Lord.**

From every sin, from every error, from every evil, from the devil's lies and cunning,  
from eternal death,

**Deliver us, good Lord.**

By the mystery of the holy incarnation, by your holy birth, by your baptism, fasting  
and temptation, by your agony and bloody sweat, by your cross and suffering, by  
your death and burial, by your resurrection and ascension, by the coming of the Holy  
Spirit, the Counselor, in all times of trouble, in all times of prosperity, in the hour of  
death,

**Help us, good Lord.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**hear us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**grant us your peace. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer—**

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.

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

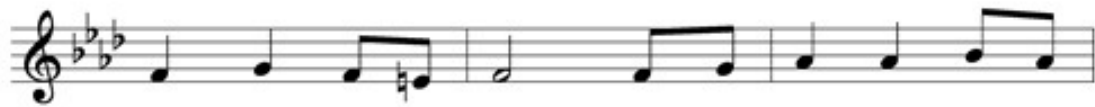
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

Hymn: "Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor" (Hymn #437 from the NEW Hymnal)



1 Rest, O Christ, from all your la - bor; sleep with -  
 2 Peace at last from all your an - guish, wounds in  
 3 Help us keep this sol - emn Sab - bath as we  
 4 As, through part - ing Red Sea wa - ters, Is - rael



in your bor - rowed tomb. Foes have cru - ci - fied and  
 hands and feet and side. En - e - mies no long - er  
 wait for Eas - ter dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is  
 marched to lib - er - ty, so we pass thro' bap - tism's



bound you fast with - in death's nar - row room.  
 mock you, scourged, a - ban - doned, cru - ci - fied.  
 pass - ing; death's long reign will soon be gone.  
 wa - ter, washed by grace, from sin set free.



Pi - late's guards stand watch - ing, wait - ing where they  
 Faith - ful wom - en gath - er spic - es, weep for  
 Christ, in whom the new cre - a - tion ris - es  
 Je - sus, ris - en, liv - ing, reign - ing now and



rolled the seal - ing stone. All un - seen an - oth - er  
 you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who  
 bright - er than the sun: may we, as we watch for  
 through e - ter - ni - ty: grant that, through your life un -



watch - es: God will not for - sake his own.  
 guards you will not let your death be vain.  
 morn - ing, trust the vic - t'ry you have won.  
 dy - ing, we may live vic - to - rious - ly.

— PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE —

A Warm Welcome to all St John's Members  
joining us for Worship on this Good Friday!

A special THANK YOU to our Guest Organist this evening,  
David Robertson from St. John's, Riga

PLEASE LEAVE SILENTLY, HUMBL Y CONSCIOUS OF THE WEIGHT OF SIN  
THAT NAILED OUR LORD TO A CROSS.

**Return again, as the women to the tomb, to be filled with the joy  
of knowing that death could not hold Him...and, because of the blessings of  
Jesus' cross and empty tomb, death cannot hold us.**

Our worship here at Grace continues on  
**EASTER SUNDAY at 10:30 AM**

Join us for Easter Breakfast down in the fellowship hall before  
the service at 9:00 AM

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Grace Ev Lutheran Church • 302 N Maumee St • Tecumseh, MI 49286  
Rev. William A. Finn  
Website: [gracetecumseh.com](http://gracetecumseh.com)

## Hymn #127 - Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



1 Strick-en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see him dy - ing on the  
2 Tell me, as you hear him groan - ing, was there ev - er grief like  
3 If you 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 you see 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 - pect - 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.

## Hymn #268 - Lamb of God, Pure and Holy



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,  
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,  
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.  
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.  
ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:  
All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:  
All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!  
have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!  
your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!