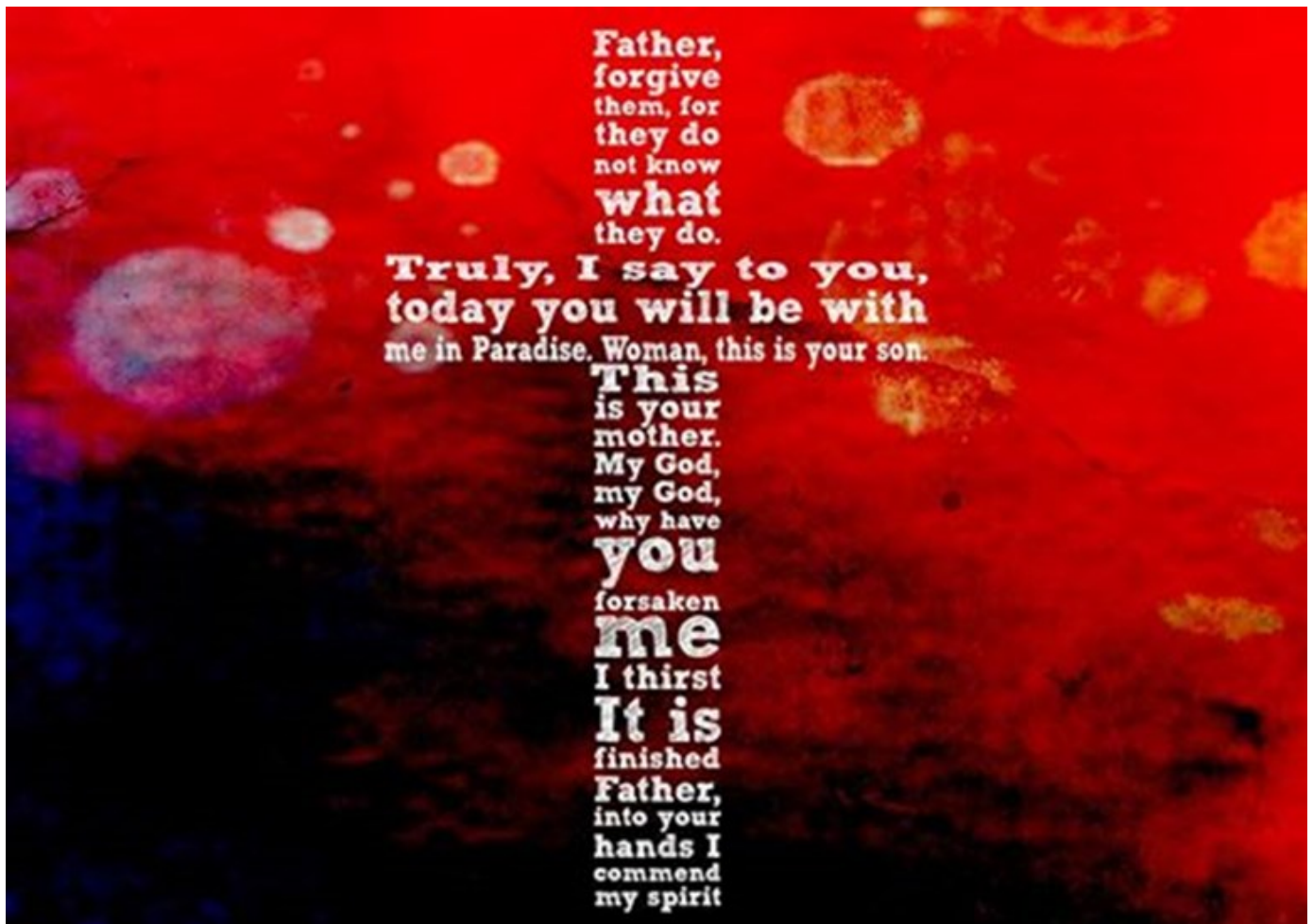


*Welcome to worship
with the community of
Amazing Grace Lutheran Church*



*Good Friday
April 2, 2021
7:00 pm*

WELCOME

SIGN OF THE CROSS

OPENING PRAYER

(J. Seymour, 2021)

God who is love,
we pray, **humbly, on this holy day that our hearts and minds will be opened to understand your grace in a new and glorious way. Grant us not to see the cross as a punishment for our individual, petty crimes, but as an indictment of the brokenness of our world, our failure to love one another, our rejection of your presence in the imprisoned, the hungry, and the traveling. By your gracious Spirit, breathe in us and through us a new creation, an end to chaos, a better right now- with no waiting for tomorrow. Even on this day, let us glimpse the already empty tomb and all its glory. Amen.**

SONG

Lord Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712 v 1-3

**Lord, whose love in humble service, bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed;
we, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose, every gift which you impart.**

**Still your children wander homeless, still the hungry cry for bread.
Still the captives long for freedom, still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion, healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness, dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens, your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.**

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Sandy

SOLO

Lamb of God

ELW 336

Anne Hancock

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THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS

In this service of increasing darkness, the story of Jesus' Passion is told again. At the end of each reading one of the seven candles on the cross will be extinguished as a visual reminder of the death of our Lord.

The seven “words from the cross” have been used in many different ways. No one Gospel contains all of them, and so in a way they are like a mosaic – small fragments and broken pieces of the story that by themselves may not be easily understood, but when brought together they give a clearer sense of the heart of God.

FIRST READING

Forgiveness

Luke 23:34-38

“Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”³⁵ And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah^[g] of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him,^[l] “This is the King of the Jews.”

PRAYER

SECOND READING

Unexpected Grace

Luke 23:35-43

³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah^[g] of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him,^[l] “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding^[j] him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah?^[j] Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into ^[k] your kingdom.” ⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

SONG

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

ELW 351 verse 1

**O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded, with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.**

THIRD READING***The Beloved Community******John 19:26-27***

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

PRAYER**FOURTH READING*****In Suffering and Weakness******Mark 15:34***

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land^[b] until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"^[j]

SONG***O Sacred Head Now Wounded******verse 2 (V. Kemper, 2011)***

**What you, dear Jesus, suffered casts light upon our way,
We see the cost of loving and living for the day
When all God's children flourish in justice and in peace,
When hungry mouths will be fed and warring ways will cease.**

FIFTH READING***Our Partner on the Journey******John 19:28-29***

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth

PRAYER**SIXTH READING*****Following God's Way to the End******John 19:30***

³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished."

SONG***O Sacred Head Now Wounded******verse 3 (V. Kemper, 2011)***

**What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest friend;
For this your selfless living, your love that did not bend?
May my life bless all people, may my love bring you praise,
That all might share God's blessing, that all would know God's grace.**

SEVENTH READING***Trust & Letting Go******Luke 23:44-46***

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land^[1] until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed;^[2] and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

PRAYER**THE LAST READING*****Mark 15:39-47***

Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he^[1] breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"^[2]

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶Then Joseph^[1] bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body,^[2] wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body^[3] was laid.

We depart in quiet and reflection on the gift of God's Love and Grace embodied in Christ.

**Thank you to our worship leaders tonight
Anne Hancock & Andre Neptune**

AMAZING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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M-Th ~ 9-3 F ~ 9-12noon

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