



everything [in] between

acceptance & resistance



Good Friday

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Friday, April 18, 2025

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April 18, 2025 | 8:00 PM

As Jesus dies on the cross, one thief resists him and the other accepts him as Messiah. Jesus resists the empire but accepts his fate. We also are called to resist systems of power and oppression, and yet we ultimately have to accept that Jesus dies – and one day we will too. We have to discern what to accept as given and what to resist, what is “God’s will” and what is the result of our own unquestioned systems.

The congregation gathers in silence.

The congregation may stand as the hymn begins.

HYMN

Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth



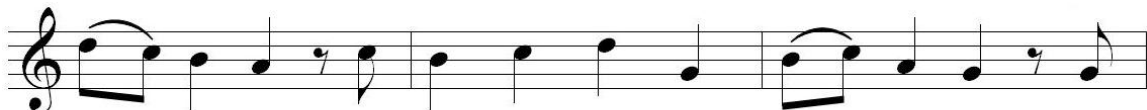
1. Lord Christ, when first you came to earth, up - on a
2. O awe - some Love, which finds no room in life where
3. New ad - vent of the love of Christ, will we a -
4. O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in us your



cross they bound you, and mocked your sav - ing king - ship's worth by
sin de - nies__ you, and, doomed to death shall bring to doom the
gain re - fuse__ you, till in the night of hate and war we
new cre - a - tion; our pride is dust, our vaunt is stilled we



thorns with which they crowned you. And still our wrongs may
pow'r that cru - ci - fied__ you, till not a stone is
per - ish as we lose__ you? From an - cient doubts our
wait your rev - e - la__ tion. O Love that tri - umphs



fash - ion now new thorns to pierce that stead - y brow, and
 left___ on stone, and then the na - tions pride, o'er thrown, will
 minds re - lease to seek the king - dom of___ your peace, by
 o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be - fore___ your cross; come,
 robe of sor - row round___ you._____
 ne - ver - more de - fy___ you!_____
 which a - lone we choose you._____
 fin - ish your sal - va - tion._____

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

All-loving God, look with 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.

The congregation is seated.

³⁹Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." ⁴¹Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴²"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me, yet not my will but yours be done." ⁴³Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. ⁴⁴In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. ⁴⁵When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

"Lord, should we strike with the sword?"

⁵⁰Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as though I were a rebel? ⁵³When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of darkness!" ^{54a}Then they seized him and led him away.

HYMN

Stay with Me (ELW 348)
Sung three times

The first candle is extinguished.

⁵⁴The religious authorities seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly. ⁶³Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; ⁶⁴they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

"Prophecy! Who is it who struck you?"

⁶⁵They kept heaping many other insults on him. ⁶⁶When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. ⁶⁷They said,

"If you are the Messiah, tell us."

He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe, ⁶⁸and if I question you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰All of them asked,

"Are you, then, the Son of God?"

He said to them, "You say that I am." ⁷¹Then they said,

"What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

RESPONSIVE HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus (ELW 349)

Sung responsively with congregation singing vs. 1, 3 & 5, and soloist singing vs. 2 & 4

The second candle is extinguished.

THIRD READING: Trial before Pilate

Luke 23:1-25

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying,

“We found this man inciting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”

³Then Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.” ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.” ⁵But they were insistent and said,

“He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people, and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him." ¹⁸Then they all shouted out together,

"Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"

¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again, ²¹but they kept shouting,

"Crucify, crucify him!"

²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified, and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

The congregation may stand.

THE SOLEMN REPROACHES

Refrain

The musical score is written for two voices, Treble and Bass, in a key of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily homophonic, with chords and simple intervals. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y, ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us." The score consists of two systems of staves. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,

ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have kept others enslaved and refused to offer forgiveness. You have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. All throughout history I have rescued you. I have given you witnesses to accompany you and prophets to guide you, but you have silenced their voices and refused to change your ways. You have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I grafted you into my people, Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt. You have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I welcomed you, but you spewed hate at your Asian neighbors. I showed you solidarity and gave you a global community, but you clung to nationalism. I gave you abundance, but you hoarded your wealth in fear. I healed you, but you ignored the plight of your sick and vulnerable siblings. You have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I came to you as the least of your siblings. I cried out #blacklivesmatter, and you tear-gassed me. I wept as my child was ripped from my arms, and you detained me. I was murdered, and in your newspapers you deadnamed and misgendered me. I worshiped God by another name, and you profiled me. I prayed to protect our water, and you shot rubber bullets at me. I whispered #metoo, and you blamed me. I fled my war-torn homeland, and you denied me refuge. You have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

The third candle is extinguished.

The congregation is seated.

FOURTH READING: Jesus is Mocked and Crucified

Luke 23:26-43

²⁶As they led Jesus away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God's chosen one!"

³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

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

HYMN

Jesus, Remember Me (ELW 616)
Sung three times

The fourth candle is extinguished.

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

A moment of silence is kept.

⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

SILENT CONTEMPLATION

BIDDING PRAYER

I invite you to assume a posture of prayer. You may kneel, sit, or stand. You may fold your hands or turn them upward. You may close your eyes, or look up to the Altar.

Let us pray, dear siblings, for the church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. By your Holy Spirit, guide us to persevere in hope, proclaim your name, and bring good news to the poor and freedom to the captives. Strengthen and uphold Laurie and Elizabeth, our bishops; Allison, our pastor; India, our deaconess; and all other ministers of the church, including deacons, musicians, and lay leaders. Keep all members of the Body of Christ in health and safety, and empower each of us in our various vocations to faithfully pursue the work to which we have been called. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for followers of other sacred traditions.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you using different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love we all hold sacred. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who do not participate in a sacred tradition.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, you created a humanity that longs for the holy and yearns to find peace. Grant that all may experience signs of love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for the sick and those in need.

Silent prayer.

All-loving and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

The congregation is seated.

SIXTH READING: The Burial of Jesus

Luke 23:50-56

⁵⁰ Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph who, though a member of the council, ⁵¹ had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. ⁵² This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³ Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁵⁴ It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵ The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶ Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

ORGAN REFLECTION

My Heart Is Filled with Longing, Johannes Brahms
Susan Werner Reiser, organ

The sixth candle is extinguished.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SOLO

Were You There, African American Spiritual
Allison Katsufakis, soloist

The final candle is removed, signifying the death and burial of Christ.

The congregation departs in silence. Our worship continues Sunday at 9:30 am.



Serving in Worship

Presider: Pastor Allison Bengfort
Altar Guild: Susan Werner Reiser
Lectors: Libby & Joe Calhoun
Musician: Susan Werner Reiser
Soloist: Allison Katsufakis
Tech Team: Chase Isaacson
Zoom Host: Marlan Bell

Cover art: "A Wide Embrace," newspaper & gold leaf collage with digital drawing by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

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