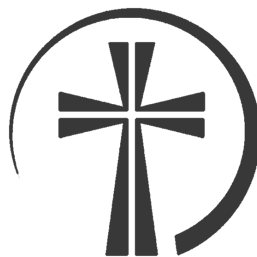


Good Friday



April 2, 2021

5:30 PM



The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
The Bronx, New York

In the Name of Jesus

On this day the Church gathers to hear the proclamation of the Passion, to pray for the life of the world, and to meditate on the life-giving cross. The ancient title for this day—THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS—reminds us that the Church gathers to offer thanksgiving for the wood of the tree on which hung the salvation of the whole world. The Church venerates the rough hewn cross on this second of the Three Days, contemplating the mystery of our salvation.

We gather and depart in silence.

As the ministers and assistants process, the congregation stands.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and 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, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. 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-- 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. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 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. 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. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken,

struck down by God, and afflicted. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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.

Epistle (Letter) Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Passion of Our Lord according to St. John (St. John 18:1-19:42)

Sermon (*Silent prayer follows the sermon.*)

The Bidding Prayer

A: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father guide her and hear her together, so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of your holy catholic and apostolic Church. Help her to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to all people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for Bishop Harrison, Bishop Lecakes, and all Bishops, all Pastors, all Commissioned Ministers and all servants of the Church, and for all the people of God.

P: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes her holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors and leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for all those who are preparing for Baptism and Confirmation, that God make them responsive to His love and give them life in Jesus Christ.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you continually bless the Church with new members. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for Baptism and Confirmation. Give them a new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one Church all those who know Christ as Lord.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give your Church her unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your Church that the people you first made your own may arrive with the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find Him who is the author and goal of our existence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray for Joseph Biden—our President, Kamala Harris—our Vice President, Andrew Cuomo—our Governor, William DiBlasio—our Mayor, Ruben Diaz, Jr.—our Borough President, all who serve in public office and our troops, that God may guide their minds and hearts to make choices and decisions according to His Holy will, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and the oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. 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.

C: Amen.

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

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom & teach us, whispering, to pray:

C: (whispered) 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.

Veneration of the Holy Cross

(Please stand and face the narthex, following the Holy Cross.)

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

C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.

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

C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.

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

C: Oh, come, let us worship Him.

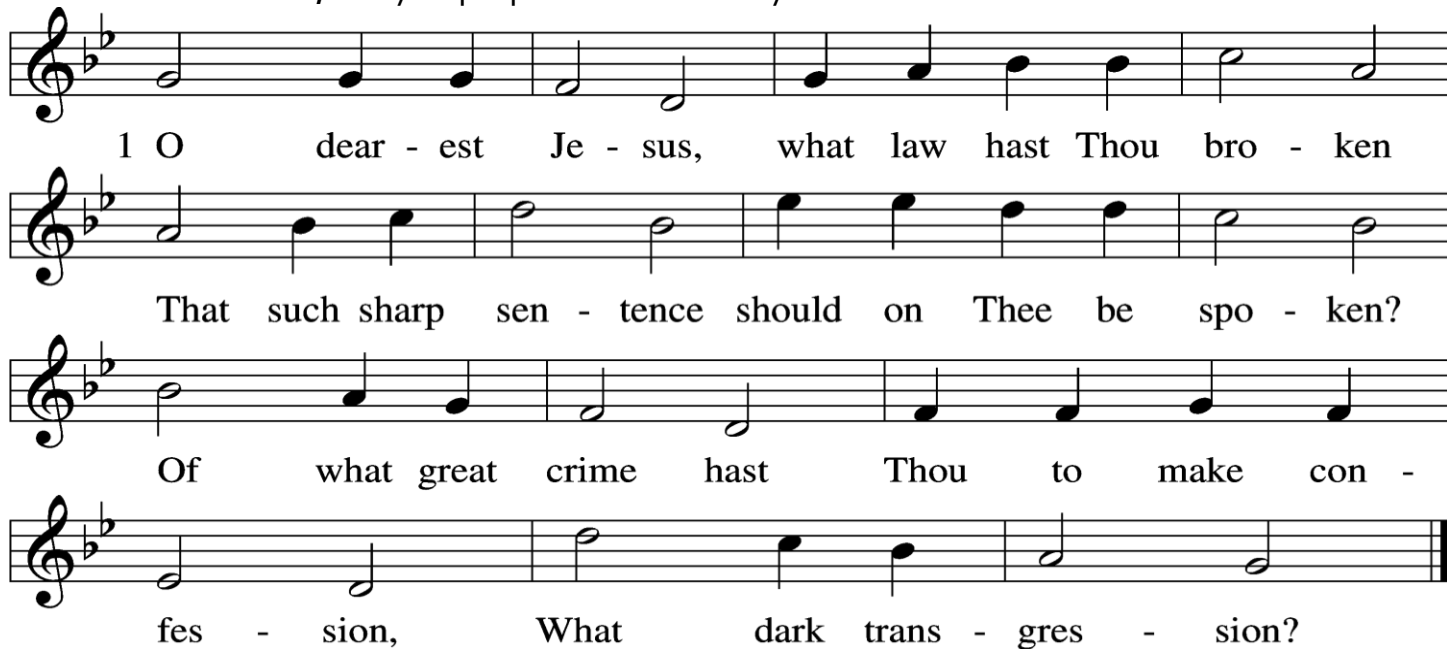
(We come forward in the manner similar to the reception of our Lord's Body and Blood to pray before the Holy Cross. Afterwards, we return to our seats and sing the hymns.)

Meditation Hymn: Were You There

--LSB 456

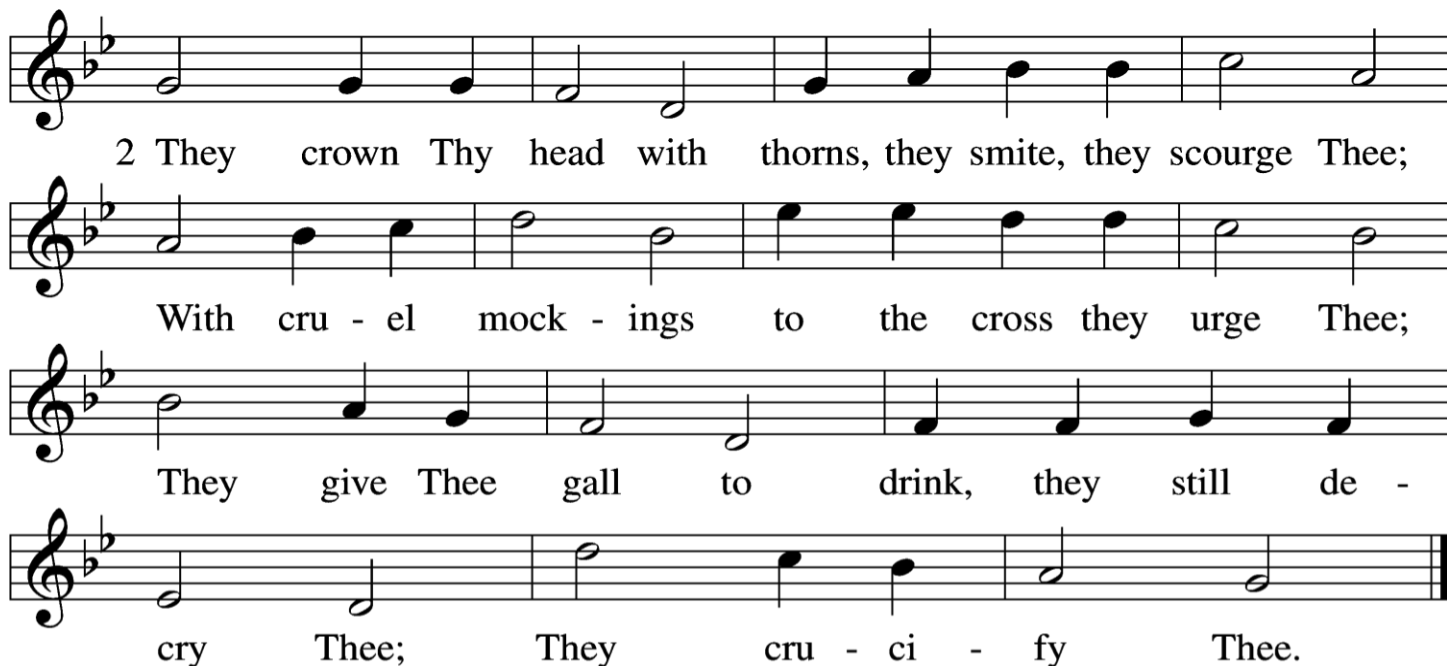
The Solemn Reproaches with "O Dearest Jesus" (LSB 439)

P: O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna; I brought you through times of persecution and of renewal and gave you my body, the bread of heaven; but you prepared a cross for your Savior.



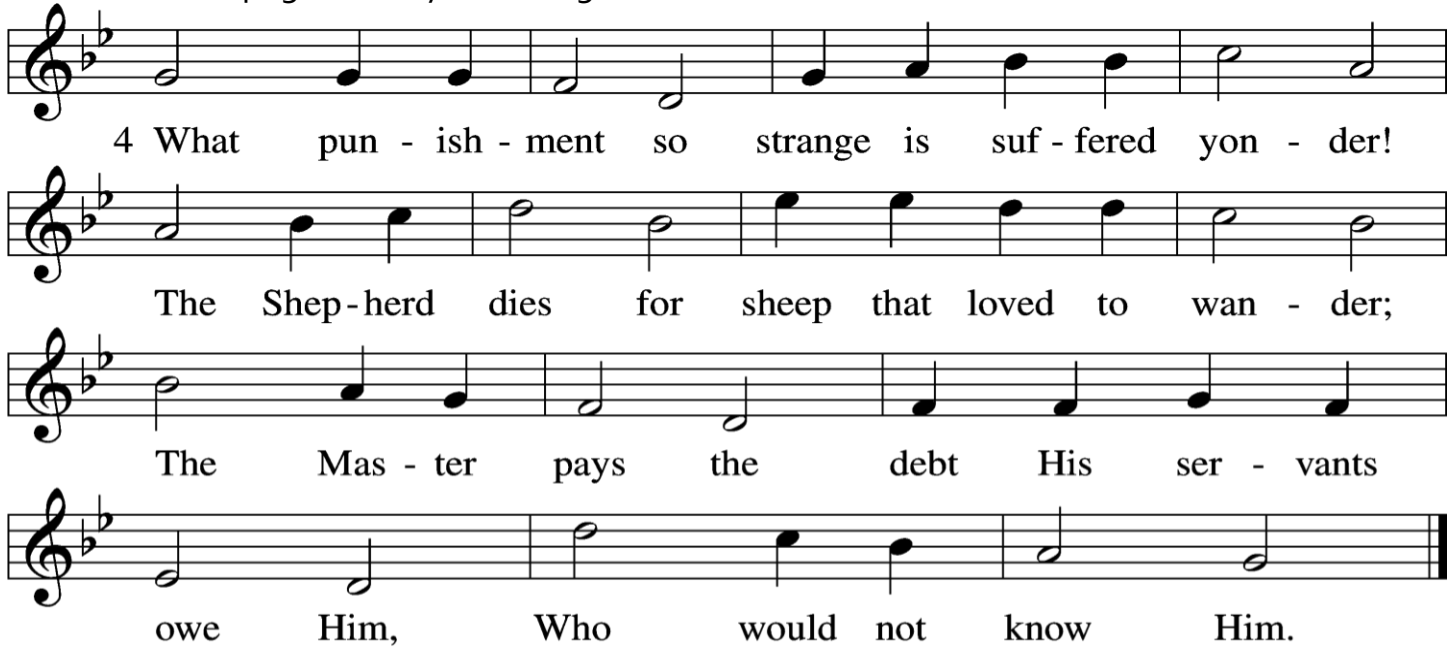
1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?

P: I went before you in a pillar of cloud, but you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I brought you to a land of freedom and prosperity, but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me. I made you branches of my vineyard and gave you the water of salvation, but when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar and gall and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.



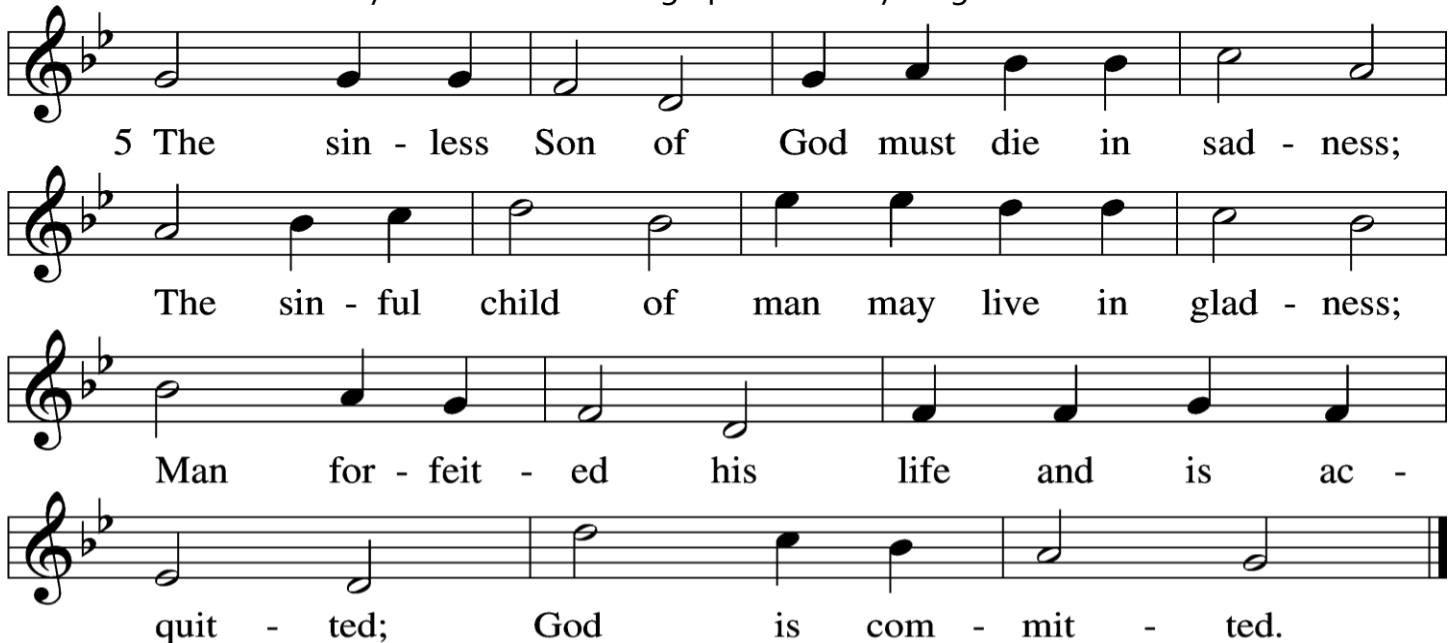
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.

P: I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have hanged me on the cross. I grafted you into the tree of my chosen people Israel, but you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt.



4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

P: I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes, but you scatter and deny and abandon me. I sent the Spirit of truth to lead you, but you close your hearts to guidance. My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a servant, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom.



5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;
Man for - feit - ed his life and is ac -
quit - ted; God is com - mit - ted.

P: I called you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing. I prayed that you all may be one, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters. I was hungry but you gave me no food, thirsty but you gave me no drink. I was a stranger but you did not welcome me, naked but you did not clothe me, sick and in prison but you did not visit me.

(The congregation stands. The lights are turned off.)

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

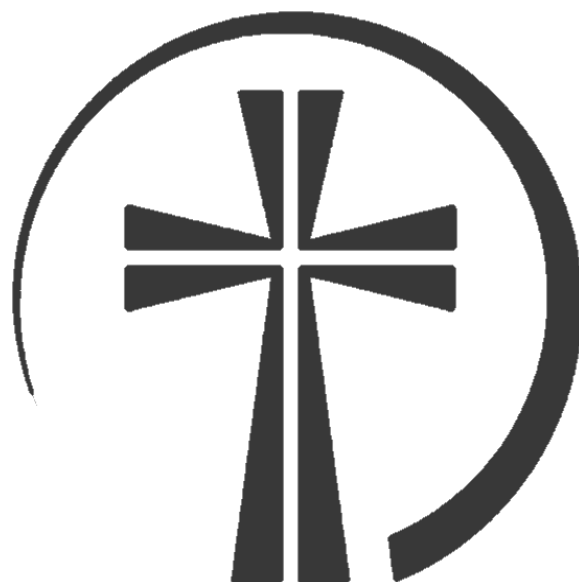
**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

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

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

*(The congregation remains seated for silent prayer as the cross makes its way outside. **After the extended silence of at least two minutes, people may remain for prayer or depart quietly. WE DO NOT SPEAK TO ONE ANOTHER AS WE LEAVE THE BUILDING. WE DEPART IN SILENCE AS WE REMEMBER THE DEATH OF OUR LORD ON THE CROSS FOR US.**)*



The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

1734 Williamsbridge Road – The Bronx, NY 10461 Phone: 718.792.5665

Website: www.oursaviourbronx.org

Sunday Liturgy (*Worship Service*): 9:30 AM