

**Good Friday + March 29, 2024 + 12:15pm & 6:30pm**

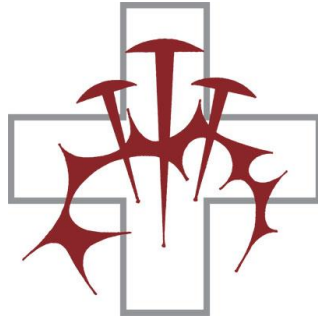
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS) + EFFINGHAM, IL.

Rev. Mike Burdick, Pastor

Organist – Jerry Starner

Acolyte – Cloie Bailey

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Isaiah 53**

*(lights brighten)*

**Prayer**

**Hymn #437**

**“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”**

**Epistle**

*Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9*

<sup>14</sup>Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. . . .

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



**Sermon**

**“Death – Good and Bad”**

***For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God  
is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

*Romans 6:23*

**Hymn #454**

**“Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle”**

**Prayer of the Church**



**THE WORDS OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS**

**Hymn #440 vv. 1-2**

**“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”**

**1. The Word of Forgiveness**

*Luke 23:33–38*

When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified— one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.” And the soldiers gambled for his clothes by throwing dice. The crowd watched and the leaders scoffed. “He saved others,” they said, “let him save himself if he is really God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.” The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. They called out to him, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” A sign was fastened above him with these words: “This is the King of the Jews.”

## ***The First Candle is Extinguished***

**Hymn #436 vv. 1 & 3**

***“Go to Dark Gethsemane”***

### **2. The Word of Promise**

*Luke 23:39–43*

One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself— and us, too, while you’re at it!” But the other criminal protested, “Don’t you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.” And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

## ***The Second Candle is Extinguished***

**Hymn #427**

***“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”***

### **3. The Word of Love**

*John 19:25–27*

Standing near the cross were Jesus’s mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, “Dear woman, here is your son.” And he said to this disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from then on this disciple took her into his home.

## ***The Third Candle is Extinguished***

**Hymn #449 vv. 1-2**

***“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”***

### **4. The Word of Forsakenness**

*Mark 15:25–35*

It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. A sign announced the charge against him. It read, “The King of the Jews.” Two revolutionaries were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. “Ha! Look at you now!” they yelled at him. “You said you were going to destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days. Well then, save yourself and come down from the cross!” The leading priests and teachers of religious law also mocked Jesus. “He saved others,” they scoffed, “but he can’t save himself! Let this Messiah, this King of Israel, come down from the cross so we can see it and believe him!” Even the men who were crucified with Jesus ridiculed him. At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o’clock. Then at three o’clock Jesus called out with a

loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?” Some of the bystanders misunderstood and thought he was calling for the prophet Elijah.

### ***The Fourth Candle is Extinguished***

**Hymn #449 vv. 3-4**

**“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”**

#### **5. The Word of Suffering**

*John 19:28–29*

Jesus knew that his mission was now finished, and to fulfill Scripture he said, “I am thirsty.” A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.

### ***The Fifth Candle is Extinguished***

**Hymn #451**

**“Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted”**

#### **6. The Word of Victory**

*John 19:30*

When Jesus had tasted it, he said, “It is finished!” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### ***The Sixth Candle is Extinguished***

**12:15pm Instrumental Anthem**

**6:30pm Choir**

**“Look To The Cross”**

*Hebrews 12:3 – Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

#### **7. The Word of Trust**

*Luke 23:44–47*

By this time it was about noon, and darkness fell across the whole land until three o’clock. The light from the sun was gone. And suddenly, the curtain in the sanctuary of the Temple was torn down the middle. Then Jesus shouted, “Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands!” And with those words he breathed his last.

When the Roman officer overseeing the execution saw what had happened, he worshiped God and said, “Surely this man was innocent.”

***The Seventh Candle is Extinguished***

**Instrumental Anthem**

**Lord's Prayer** *(prayed softly)*

**Silent Dismissal**

*The congregation leaves the sanctuary silently contemplating the death of Christ  
and looking forward to resurrection victory.*



**Return Sunday for The Resurrection of Our Lord at 6:00am, 8:00am, or 10:30am.**