THE OFFICE OF TENEBRAE

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

Good Friday

THE OFFICE OF TENEBRAE

This ancient service of worship employs both the stark simplicity of the Word and the dramatic effect of darkness. **Tenebrae (literally shadows or darkness)** focuses on the **"Seven Last Words" of Jesus** and uses a progressive darkening of the church at each of these "Words" to deepen the expression of Jesus' death. We begin with the responsive reading of **Isaiah's "Suffering Servant Psalm", Isaiah 53.** The Seven Last Words are then divided into five parts: **I. The Hymn of the Word; II. The words of the world; III. The Word of Jesus; IV. A brief meditation on the Word; V. The Silence.** As the lights are extinguished through each of the words, some worshipers will have difficulty seeing to sing the hymn and others will be able to see and sing quite easily. This is intentional and offers the church both the opportunity to sing and speak God's Word to one another as well as a time to hear



April 2, 2021

this word sung to us by other members of Christ's family. The closing Hymn, "Amazing Grace", verse 1, will be sung without accompaniment. At the conclusion of the service, the **Christ Candle**, a symbol of Jesus' death and life held in the love of His Heavenly Father, is carried from the sanctuary. The Christ Candle will be returned to its place in the chancel at the Festival of the Resurrection Eucharist. **The Holy Scriptures are then closed sharply**, symbolizing the sealing of the tomb. You are invited to leave this Service in prayer, in devotion, and in silence. Good Friday offerings may be placed in the baskets at the rear of the church as you leave.

+ THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS +

MUSICAL PRELUDE

"Adagio in G minor" by Tomaso Albinoni

David Garcia, organ; Raul Candelaria, trumpet

THE INVOCATION

- **P** In the strong Name of the Holy Trinity;
- **G** the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- P Christ has emptied Himself and become obedient unto death;
- even death on a cross. (Philippians 2)
- **P** Behold the Lamb of God;
- **G** that takes away the sin of the world. (John 1:29)
- **P** God forbid that I should glory
- **G** save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Through which the world has been crucified to me
- **G** and I have been crucified to the world.

THE TENEBRAE PSALM

- P Who has believed our report?
- **G** And to whom has the power of God been revealed?
- P God's Servant grew up before Him like a tender shoot and as a root out of dry ground.
- He has no beauty or majesty that we should desire Him.
- P He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
- **G** We hid our faces from Him: He was despised and we refused to recognize Him.
- **P** Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.
- **G** Yet we considered Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

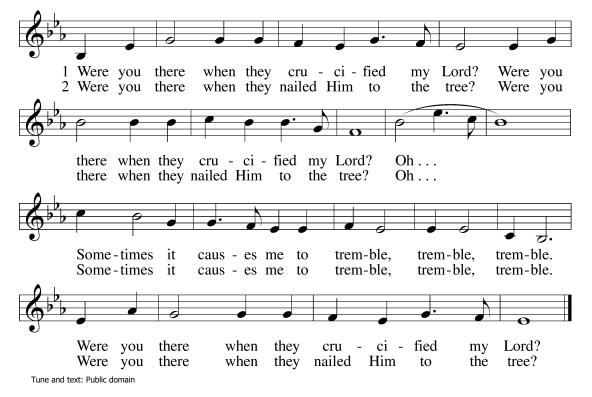
Psalm 53

- P But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities.
- **C** The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and with His wounds we are healed.
- P All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way.
- **G** And God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.
- P He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth.
- He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent so He did not open His mouth.
- He poured out His life unto death and was numbered with the transgressors.
- **G** He bore the sins of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

+ THE FIRST WORD +

HYMN OF THE WORD

"Were You There" v. 1-2 LSB 456



THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

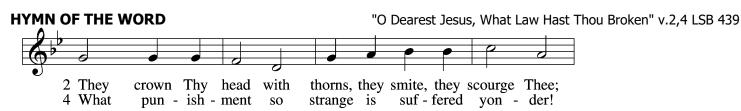
"Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

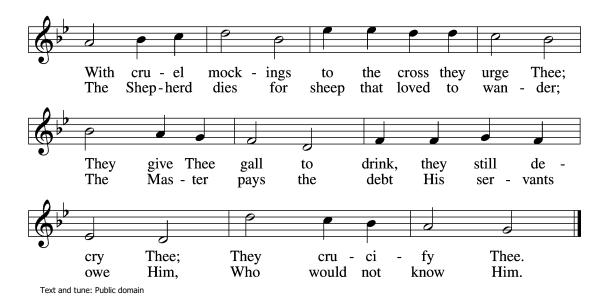
G "Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD

THE SILENCE

+ THE SECOND WORD +





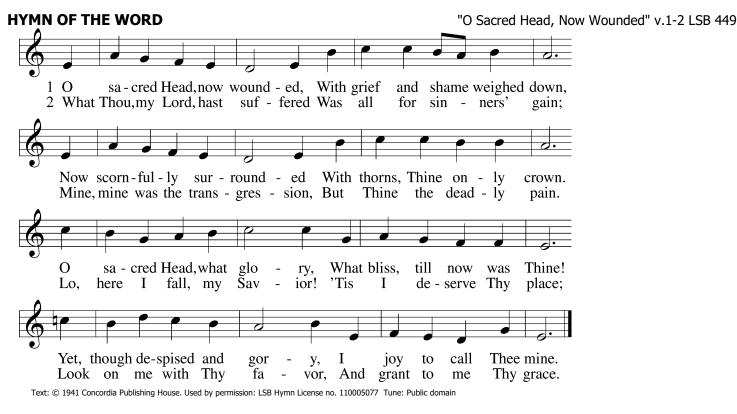
THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

- "Are you not the great Deliverer? Then save yourself and us."
- **G** "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD

THE SILENCE

+ THE THIRD WORD +

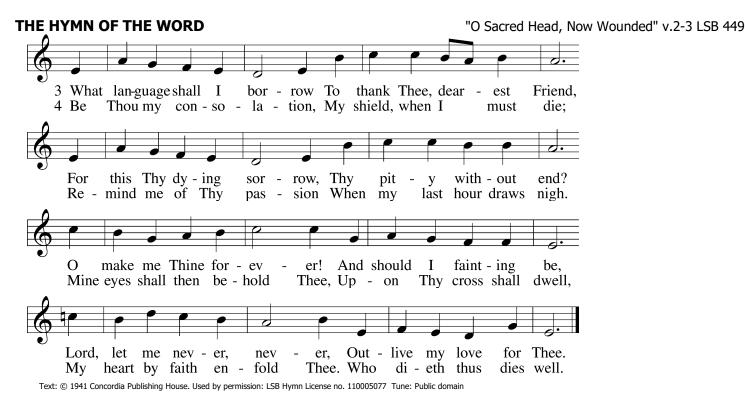


THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

- "His blood be upon us and upon our children."
- Mother here is your son. Here is your mother." (John 19:27)

THE SILENCE

+ THE FOURTH WORD +



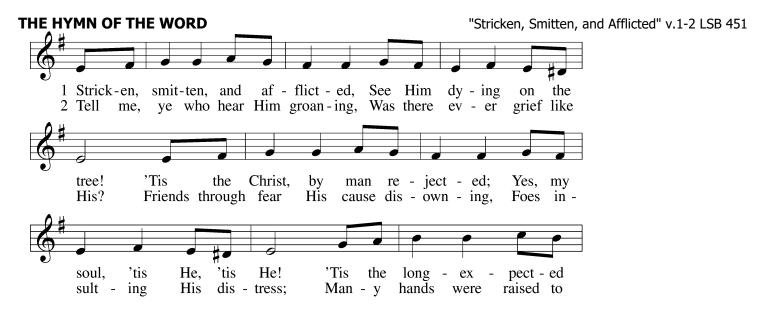
THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

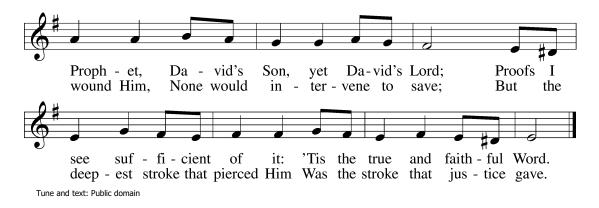
- "Did He trust in God? Let God deliver Him if He wants Him, for He said He was God's Son."
- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD

THE SILENCE

+ THE FIFTH WORD +





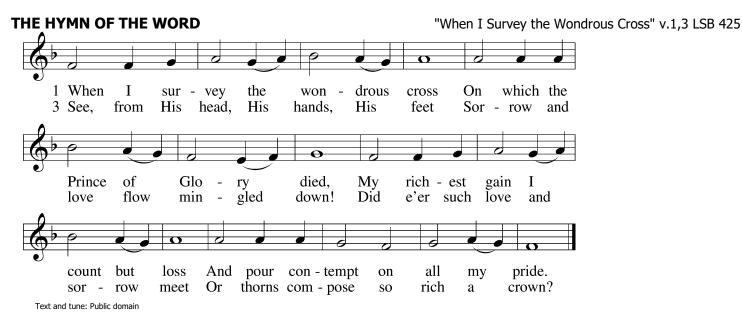
THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

- P "He saved others, but He cannot save Himself."
- G "I thirst." (John 19:28)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD

THE SILENCE

+ THE SIXTH WORD +



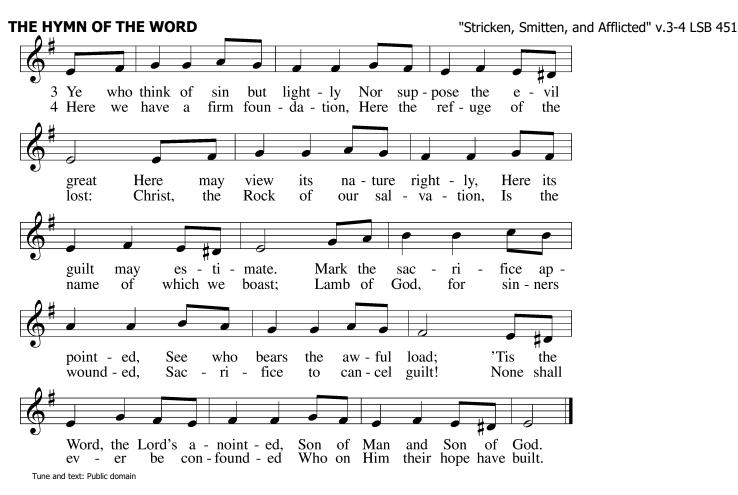
THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

- **P** "King of Israel indeed; Let Him come down now from the cross and then we will believe Him."
- "It is finished!" (John 19:30)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD

THE SILENCE

+ THE SEVENTH WORD +



THE WORDS OF THE WORLD AND THE WORD OF JESUS

P "Truly this was the Son of God."

G "Father, into Your hands I commend my Spirit." (Luke 23:46)

THE MEDITATION ON THE WORD THE SILENCE

THE CLOSING HYMN AND RECESSION OF THE CHRIST CANDLE "Amazing Grace" v.1 LSB 744

The Christ Candle, a symbol of Jesus' death and life held in the love of His Heavenly Father, is carried from the sanctuary. The Christ Candle will be returned to its place in the chancel at the Festival of the Resurrection Eucharist.

Amazing grace—how sweet the sound— That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!

THE BENEDICTION

Now may the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory forever and ever. (Hebrews 13:20)
Amen.

G Amen.

THE SEALING OF THE TOMB

The Holy Scriptures are closed sharply, symbolizing the sealing of the tomb. You are invited to leave this Service in prayer, in devotion, and in silence.

Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at <u>www.zionelpaso.org</u>. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Easter Sunday. Zion will have both an indoor service and an outdoor service on Easter Sunday. We will begin with our early morning outdoor service, followed by a neighborhood flower distribution, Easter breakfast, and indoor worship service and livestream. Communion will be served at both the indoor and outdoor services. Our schedule for Easter Sunday is as follows:

- Easter Sunday, April 4th:

Outdoor Communion Service – 8:00am *Easter Breakfast by Zion's Youth* – 9:00am *Indoor Communion Service* – 10:30am

We would love to see you in-person or online at our Easter services! We would appreciate it if you filled out an RSVP form through our website prior to attending a service, however it is not required. If you have any questions, please call the church office at (915) 566-4667. We look forward to worshiping with you!

"Bagging Beans and Rice" Service Project to Assist YLM with their weekly food distribution. **Next Sunday, April 11th, after the Church Service, in the Auditorium**: LWML invites you to join us ~ in participating in our annual "Beans and Rice Project" to assist YLM: filling sandwich-size Ziplock bags with dry beans and/or rice, which are part of the food distribution bags given out each Saturday to families in need. With the help of a Thrivent Action Grant, all the items needed for this project will be provided. The tables in the Auditorium will be spaced apart to meet Social Distancing requirements; we may also have stations set up on tables in the Fellowship Hall, too. (LWML Members are reminded to bring a one cup measuring cup, if possible; we will have many available to use.) We hope you will plan on joining us! Many hands make light work! See you next Sunday!



2800 Pershing Dr. El Paso, Texas 79903 (915) 566-4667 + info@zionelpaso.org www.zionelpaso.org