

# *Peace Lutheran Church*

**“Peace Through Christ”**

Rob Rebensal, Pastor    Pastor Mike Schultze, Director of Youth

71 Loma Drive - Camarillo, CA 93010  
(805) 482-3313   office@peacecamarillo.com  
peacecamarillo.com

## **GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE**

April 2, 2021

**As We Gather** Christians around the world gather on this solemn day to remember the greatest sacrifice of love the world has ever seen. Even the anticipated celebration of our Lord's resurrection cannot diminish the horror at the sight of the very Son of God hanging on a cross in our place-stricken, smitten, and afflicted for us and for our salvation, because of our sin. In quiet reflection we ponder the great cost by which we receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Our Good Friday celebration is the “second act” of the great triduum observed by the Church of all ages, spanning the days of our Lord’s betrayal, suffering, death, and resurrection.

**Service of Tenebrae** Tonight’s service of darkness, also known as Tenebrae (the name means “darkness” or “shadows”) is a Holy Week devotion that dates back to the seventh or eighth century A.D. and is characterized by the successive extinguishing of candles as the service progresses.

The service is divided into seven parts, each highlighting one of the last words of Jesus. Near the conclusion of the service the congregation will speak very softly the Lord’s Prayer. Then the Christ candle will be removed, symbolizing our Lord’s death and burial. The strepitus is heard, a harsh noise indicating the closing of the tomb. The Christ candle is returned in anticipation of our Lord’s resurrection.

**To avoid interruption during the service, the offering will be gathered at the door as you leave in silence.**

## **+ PREPARATION +**

### **INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People: Amen.**

### **PROPHECY OF THE SUFFERING AND DEATH OF OUR LORD (Is. 53)**

Pastor: Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

**People: He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.**

Pastor: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire him.

**People: He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.**

Pastor: Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**People: Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted.**

1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the tree!  
 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!  
 'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's Lord;  
 Proofs I see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.

Pastor: But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;

**People:** **the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.**

Pastor: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;

**People:** **and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan-ing, Was there ev - er grief like His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in - sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.

Pastor: He was oppressed and afflicted; yet He did not open His mouth;

**People:** **He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.**

Pastor: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death,

**People:** **though He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth.**

3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Pastor: After the suffering of His soul, He will see the light of life and be satisfied;

**People:** **by His knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and He will bear their iniquities.**

Pastor: Therefore, I will give Him a portion among the great, and He will divide the spoils with the strong, because He poured out His life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

**People:** **For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**

## CONFESSTION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, when You came into this world of sin You were tested and tempted in all ways. Yet You did not sin, but became sin for us.

**People:** Heavenly Father, we admit and confess that we have failed and fallen short. We have sinned against You in our thoughts, in our words, and in our actions. Have mercy on us, we pray, for the sake of our great High Priest, Jesus Christ.

Pastor: The death of Christ was on your behalf. At the command of Jesus Christ and in His stead I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen**

4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into 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.

**People: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT ..... Hosea 6:1-6

"Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth." "What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah? Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears. Therefore I cut you in pieces with my prophets, I killed you with the words of my mouth; my judgments flashed like lightning upon you. For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."

*(After the reading)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE ..... Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. *(Cont'd)*

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### HYMN

#### "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

1 A - las! And did my Sav - - ior bleed, And  
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He  
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And  
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The

did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that  
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,  
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y  
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -

sa - cred head For such a worm as I?  
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!  
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.  
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

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### MESSAGE

### BIDDING PRAYER

*Use of the Bidding Prayer on Good Friday is an ancient custom in the Church.*

*Petitions end, "Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord"  
Congregation responds, "Amen"*

### HYMN

#### "Jesus I Will Ponder Now"

1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;  
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.

With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.

Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure

Of Your suf - f'reng, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

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## SERVICE OF DARKNESS

**FIRST WORD . . . . .** John 19:14-16a; Luke 23:32-34a

It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews. But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Pastor: Father Almighty, the shadow of Your Son's cross falls upon us;

**People:** We know not how to bear such a load of grief and pain.

Pastor: Grant, O Lord, the comforting shadow of Your mercy.

**People:** Fill our hearts, our souls, and our minds with your Spirit.

Pastor: Enlighten us,

**People:** that we may see Your love clearly in the death of Your Son, Jesus.

## HYMN

### "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,  
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,  
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,

Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.  
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.  
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.

All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:  
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:

Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!  
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!  
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

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Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, You did not seek revenge on those who tormented You. Grant us grace to forgive those who hurt us, to overcome evil with good, to love our enemies for Your sake, and as children of the Heavenly Father, seek Your peace and evermore rejoice in your love.

**People:** Amen.

*(The first candle is extinguished)*

**SECOND WORD . . . . . Luke 23:35-43**

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." There was a written notice above Him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

Pastor: Great God,

**People: You are the giver of everything we know and of all that we have.**

Pastor: Direct us

**People: that we too may see the goodness of this day, even in the midst of uncertainty and sadness.**

Pastor: Show us

**People: that not all our shadows need be fearsome, that it is our fears only, which bring unwelcome darkness.**

Pastor: Guide us

**People: into Your paradise that awaits us and in knowing Your perfect peace.**

Pastor: Grant us

**People: a richer awareness of the hope You have sent to us in Your Son, Jesus.**

**HYMN****"Lord, When Thy Kingdom Comes"**

(Tune: "Abide With Me")

"Lord, when Thy kingdom comes, remember me"  
Thus spake the dying lips to dying ears;  
O faith, which in that darkest hour could see  
The promised glory of the far off years!

No kingly sign declares that glory now,  
No ray of hope lights up that awful hour;  
A thorny crown surrounds the bleeding brow,  
The hands are stretched in weakness, not in power.

Hark! Through the gloom the dying Savior saith,  
"Thou too shalt rest in Paradise today";  
O words of love to answer words of faith!  
O words of hope for those who live to pray!

Pastor: Lord Jesus, while You hung on the cross You showed mercy to the dying thief. With that mercy look on us also we pray, and at our last hour, comfort us with Your promise that we will dwell forever in paradise with You.

**People: Amen**

*(The second candle is extinguished)*

**THIRD WORD . . . . .** John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

**Pastor:** Lord God, may we learn by Christ's example to love others as we love ourselves;

**People:** **forgiving the worst we find in others and in ourselves; rejoicing in the best we know of others and of ourselves.**

**Pastor:** With the power of Your Holy Spirit encourage us to strive

**People:** **toward greater unity in our own families and toward unity in the family of believers in Christ Jesus.**

**HYMN**

**"In the Hour of Trial"**

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G clef, common time. The lyrics are as follows:

1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me,  
 2 With for - bid - den plea - sures Should this vain world charm,  
 3 Should thy mer - cy send me Sor - row, toil, and woe,

Lest by base de - ni - al I de - part from thee.  
 Or its sor - did trea - sures Spread to work me harm,  
 Or should pain at - tend me On my path be - low,

When thou seest me wa - ver, With a look re - call;  
 Bring to my re - mem - brance Sad Geth-sem - a - ne,  
 Grant that I maynev - er Fail thy hand to see;

Nor from fear or fa - vor Suf - fer me to fall.  
 Or, in dark - er sem - blance, Cross-crowned Cal - va - ry.  
 Grant that I may ev - er Cast my care on thee.

**Pastor:** Lord Jesus, while You suffered the agony of the cross, You remembered in love Your sorrowing mother. With that same love and pity bless all parents, especially those whose hearts are torn by the loss of loved ones or burdened with worry over their children. In your mercy, gather all within the peace of Your cross, so that parent and child will love each other as they love You.

**People: Amen**

*(The third candle is extinguished)*

#### FOURTH WORD ..... Matthew 27:45-47

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

Pastor: Lord, we do not want to forsake you.

**People:** **Grant us the strength to walk the way Christ our brother trod.**

Pastor: Lord, we do not want to forsake you.

**People:** **Grant us the courage to endure our suffering as Christ our brother endured suffering.**

Pastor: Lord, we want your assurance that You will never forsake us.

**People:** **Grant us confidence in your abiding mercy – ours to claim through faith in Christ our brother.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Your Son cried, "Why have You forsaken me?" In time of trial and suffering, do not turn away from us, but give us Your presence and Your power that enable us to endure whatever may be set before us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

#### FIFTH WORD ..... Matthew 10:38-42; John 19:28-29

(Jesus told his disciples) "Anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward." Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

Pastor: Lord of life,

**People:** **we know that You provide all we need to support life.**

Pastor: Lord of redemption,

**People:** **reveal the power of Your redeeming love in our daily living.**

Pastor: Lord of love,

**People:** **help us to remember that Your Son suffered and died as one of us, bearing in His body the penalty for the sin we commit.**

*(The fourth candle is extinguished)*

## HYMN

## “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, My eye at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow For my a - bid - ing place;

The shad - ow of a might - y rock With - in a wea - ry land,  
 The ver - y dy - ing form of one Who suf - fered there for me.  
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than The sun - shine of his face;

A home with-in a wil - der - ness, A rest up - on the way,  
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, Two won - ders I con - fess:  
 Con - tent to let the world go by, To know no gain nor loss,

From the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat And bur - dens of the day.  
 The won - der of his glo - rious love And my un-wor - thi - ness.  
 My sin - ful self my on - ly shame, My glo - ry all, the cross.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You endured not only spiritual anguish but also physical pain on the cross in our place. We thirst for the healing that only You can provide. Strengthen us to carry our burdens and to endure our sufferings by the grace of Your holy example, always giving You thanks for Your love.

People: Amen.

*(The fifth candle is extinguished)*

## SIXTH WORD . . . . . Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28; John 19-30a

When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

Pastor: Lord Jesus, in Your death we have life.

People: Stir up our souls that we may pursue with renewed strength the paths You have laid for us.

Pastor: Lead and direct us, O Lord, beyond the darkness into a fuller understanding of Your will,

People: that we need not grope through the darkness to lay our commitment before You and Your Son, Jesus.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Author and Finisher of our faith. You did not stop short of finishing the task given to You by Your Father. Complete in us everything You intend for us so that as children of the heavenly Father, we may live for His glory.

People: Amen.

*(The sixth candle is extinguished)*

## SEVENTH WORD . . . . . Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 27:54

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

*(Pause for meditation)*

When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Pastor: Open our eyes, Lord,

**People:** **the shadow of Your Son's cross encompasses all our world.**

Pastor: Stir our souls, Lord,

**People:** **that we may pursue with renewed strength the paths You have laid for us.**

Pastor: Lead us, Lord,

**People:** **that when our last hour comes, we may be commended into Your loving hands.**

## HYMN

### "Were You There"

The musical notation consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a G clef and a common time signature. The lyrics for the first section are: 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you 2 Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you 3 Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? Were you There when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh ... There when they nailed Him to the tree? Oh ... There when they laid Him in the tomb? Oh ... The second staff begins with a G clef and a common time signature. The lyrics for the middle section are: Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. The third staff begins with a G clef and a common time signature. The lyrics for the final section are: Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

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Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as You gave Your life on the cross in our place, You commended Your spirit into the loving hands of Your heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. When our last hour comes, grant us peace that we may close our eyes with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever in the hands of our heavenly Father.  
**People:** Amen

*(The Christ candle is extinguished)*

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Spoken softly by all.*)

All: 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.

*Thank you for worshipping with us.*

*Please join us for:*

**Easter Sunday April 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:30 outdoor service**  
**(Easter egg hunt following)**

*(During the darkness the congregation is invited to meditate silently on Christ's suffering and death. The Christ candle is removed, a loud noise symbolizes the closing of the tomb, the Christ candle is returned in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection. The congregation may leave the church in silence.)*

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*Please worship with us at our regular  
Sunday Worship Services*

8:00 & 11:00 am Traditional Services  
9:30 am Contemporary Service