

## As We Gather

Ever since the beginning of the earthly ministry and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ (and even before!), the old evil foe, Satan, had in mind to defend his stolen realm. He used Herod's lie ("that I may come and worship Him too") to focus his murderous aim at the little town of Bethlehem. The first face-to-face battle in the wilderness employed the tools of temptation, but they failed. All along the way, the enemy inspired officials of both church and state to trip up the Lord of Life. He even manipulated the Lord's own disciples to speak against God's plan—Thomas, Judas, and of course Peter: "Far be it from You, Lord! This shall never happen to You," to which Jesus said, "Get behind Me, Satan!" (Matthew 16:22–23). But finally, on this dark day, the adversary was certain he would finally take down the so-called Savior from sin and death by means of sin and death itself. "O sorrow dread! Our God is dead" (LSB 448:2).

But this final, sudden-death matchup would not be just another temptation like any before. Our Good Friday gathering is not a minor nor optional step on our way to the expected "happy ending" of Easter.

Here is not written a brief obituary of a sad end but rather the crowning accomplishment of the King of the Jews, the King of Creation, the Lord of Life, who defeats sin and death through death itself. By His death, all who are baptized have died to sin and Christian cemeteries are now but waiting rooms as God has transformed the punishment of death to be, rather, the final remedy for sin as the Christian "who has died has been set free from sin" (Romans 6:7).

Through the darkness, fear, or sadness of this Good Friday, we still celebrate:

The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
We celebrate with one accord;  
It is our comfort in distress,  
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness. (LSB 634:1)

## Hymn of Invocation

*LSB 456 Were You There*

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Oh . . .  
Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble,  
tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

- 2    Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
    Oh . . .  
    Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
        tremble,  
        tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
- 3    Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
    Oh . . .  
    Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
        tremble,  
        tremble.  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
- 4    Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?  
    Oh . . .  
    Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
        tremble,  
        tremble.  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

*Text: African American spiritual, 19th cent., alt.*

*Text: Public domain*

## Prayer of the Day

**Pastor:**    Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:**    **Amen.**

<sup>13</sup>Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
he shall be high and lifted up,  
and shall be exalted.

<sup>14</sup>As many were astonished at you—  
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

<sup>15</sup>so shall he sprinkle many nations;  
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;  
for that which has not been told them they see,  
and that which they have not heard they understand.

<sup>16</sup>Who has believed what they heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>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,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.

<sup>3</sup>He was despised and rejected by men;  
a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his stripes we are healed.

<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned every one to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By oppression and judgment he was taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?  
<sup>9</sup>And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.  
<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
<sup>11</sup>Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.  
<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 22:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?\*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not | answer,\*  
and by night, but I | find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are | holy,\*  
enthroned on the praises of | Israel.

<sup>4</sup>In you our fathers | trusted;\*  
they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

<sup>5</sup>To you they cried and were | rescued,\*  
in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm and | not a man,\*  
scorned by mankind and despised by the | people.

<sup>7</sup>All who see me | mock me;\*  
they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads;

<sup>8</sup>“He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;\*  
let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!”

<sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;\*  
you made me trust you at my | mother’s breasts.

<sup>10</sup>On you was I cast | from my birth,\*  
and from my mother’s womb you have | been my God.

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me,  
for trouble | is near,\*  
and there is | none to help.

<sup>12</sup>Many bulls en- | compass me;\*  
strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me;

## Prayer

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

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.

**People:** Amen.

## Choir Anthem

*In the Shadow of the Cross*

## Epistle Reading

*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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, for our sake and for the life of the world You made Your Son, our Lord, to be sin though He knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Help us to receive and remember that our sins are forgiven and to tell others of Your act of reconciliation in the cross of Christ; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## Hymn

*LSB 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

*Verse 1*

- 1 Jesus, I will ponder now  
On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow  
For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith  
May the image cherish  
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death  
That I may not perish.

*Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.*

*Text: Public domain*

## Gospel Reading

*John 18*

Pastor: The Passion of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, according to St. John.

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, **“Whom do you seek?”** <sup>5</sup>They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, **“I am he.”** Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, **“I am he,”** they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>So he asked them again, **“Whom do you seek?”** And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, **“I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go.”**

<sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: “Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one.”<sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.)<sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

<sup>12</sup>So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup>First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret.” <sup>21</sup>“Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” <sup>24</sup>Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” <sup>26</sup>One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” <sup>27</sup>Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” <sup>30</sup>They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” <sup>32</sup>This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” <sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” <sup>40</sup>They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

## Hymn of the Day

*437 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*  
Choir - Verses 1 & 4; Congregation - Verses 2, 3, 5

- 1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,  
And did my sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?
- 2 Was it for crimes that I had done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
And love beyond degree!
- 3 Well might the sun in darkness hide  
And shut his glories in  
When God, the mighty maker, died  
For His own creatures' sin.
- 4 Thus might I hide my blushing face  
While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
And melt mine eyes to tears.

- 5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away:  
'Tis all that I can do.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.*

*Text: Public domain*

## Sermon

### Bidding Prayer

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:

Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially [name], our president; the Congress of the United States; [name], our governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for all who are outside the church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the church:

Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation: Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

### Lord's Prayer

**People: 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.**

### Seven Last Words

## Hymn

## LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 1

- 1 O sacred Head, now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down,  
Now scornfully surrounded  
With thorns, Thine only crown.  
O sacred Head, what glory,  
What bliss, till now was Thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory,  
I joy to call Thee mine.

*Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
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## First Word

*John 19:14–16a; Luke 23:32–34a*

<sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” <sup>15</sup>They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” <sup>16</sup>So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.**” And they cast lots to divide his garments.

*The first candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

## LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 2

- 2 How pale Thou art with anguish,  
With sore abuse and scorn!  
How doth Thy face now languish  
That once was bright as morn!  
Grim death, with cruel rigor,  
Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vigor,  
Thy strength, in this sad strife.

## Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

<sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup>And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, **“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

*The second candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 3

- 3   What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
      Was all for sinners' gain;  
      Mine, mine was the transgression,  
      But Thine the deadly pain.  
      Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
      'Tis I deserve Thy place;  
      Look on me with Thy favor,  
      And grant to me Thy grace.

## Third Word

John 19:24-27

<sup>25</sup>but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, **“Woman, behold, your son!”** <sup>27</sup>Then he said to the disciple, **“Behold, your mother!”** And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

*The third candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 4

- 4 My Shepherd, now receive me;  
My Guardian, own me Thine.  
Great blessings Thou didst give me,  
O Source of gifts divine.  
Thy lips have often fed me  
With words of truth and love;  
Thy Spirit oft hath led me  
To heav'nly joys above.

## Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45–47

<sup>45</sup>Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. <sup>46</sup>And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “**Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?**” that is, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**” <sup>47</sup>And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 5

- 5 What language shall I borrow  
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
For this Thy dying sorrow,  
Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever!  
And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never,  
Outlive my love for Thee.

## Fifth Word

John 19:28–29

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “**I thirst.**” <sup>29</sup>A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 6

- 6 My Savior, be Thou near me  
When death is at my door;  
Then let Thy presence cheer me,  
Forsake me nevermore!  
When soul and body languish,  
O leave me not alone,  
But take away mine anguish  
By virtue of Thine own!

## Sixth Word

John 19:30

<sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

## Hymn

LSB 450 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Verse 7

- 7 Be Thou my consolation,  
My shield, when I must die;  
Remind me of Thy passion  
When my last hour draws nigh.  
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,  
Upon Thy cross shall dwell,  
My heart by faith enfold Thee.  
Who dieth thus dies well.

## Seventh Word

Luke 23:44–46; Matthew 27:54

<sup>44</sup>It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, <sup>45</sup>while the sun’s light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup>Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

<sup>54</sup>When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”

*The seventh candle is extinguished.*

# Sound of Thunder & Earthquake

## Centurion Speaks

### Reading

*John 19:31–42*

<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. <sup>32</sup>So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. <sup>35</sup>He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. <sup>36</sup>For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken.” <sup>37</sup>And again another Scripture says, “They will look on him whom they have pierced.”

<sup>38</sup>After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. <sup>39</sup>Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. <sup>40</sup>So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup>Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. <sup>42</sup>So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

*Moment of Silence followed by the Strepitus (loud sound signifying the sealing of the tomb)*

*Following the Strepitus, the choir will surround the congregation and light each row's candles before the singing of "Beautiful Savior."*

### Hymn

*LSB 537 Beautiful Savior*

- 1 Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee,  
Truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

- 2 Fair are the meadows,  
Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine,  
Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!

*Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904*

*Text: Public domain*

## Silent Dismissal

As you leave the sanctuary in silence, think about all that you have heard.  
We will return on Easter morning with everlasting joy in our hearts.

## Acknowledgments

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