



The Seven
Last Words

Good Friday

March 29—6:30 pm

Grace Lutheran Church

211 South Ninth
Fort Dodge, Iowa

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

Grace Lutheran Church

March 29, 2024 6:30 pm

Tenebrae means shadows and refers to diminishing light as we experience anew the seven last words from the cross.
Hearing assistance devices are available at the sound desk.

Congregation responses in **Bold.** *Those who are able, please stand.

We gather in silence.

NO MORE DARKNESS

READING Psalm 146

- ¹ Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul.
² I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
³ Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.
⁴ When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.
⁵ Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.
⁶ He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.
⁷ He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free, ⁸ the Lord gives sight to the blind,
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down,
the Lord loves the righteous. ⁹ The Lord watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.
¹⁰ The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord

SONG “How Great Thou Art” – arr. Stuart Hine

Dave and Ellyn Lemke

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all, we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

READING Psalm 107

- ¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
² Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
¹⁴ he brought them out of darkness and gloom,

HYMN #820

**O Savior, Precious Savior, whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor, all other names above;
We worship thee, we bless thee; to thee alone we sing;
We praise thee and confess thee, our holy Lord and King.**

READING Micah 7:1-8

Woe is me! For I have become like one who, after the summer fruit has been gathered, after the vintage has been gleaned, finds no cluster to eat; there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger.

² The faithful have disappeared from the land, and there is no one left who is upright; they all lie in wait for blood, and they hunt each other with nets.

³ Their hands are skilled to do evil; the official and the judge ask for a bribe, and the powerful dictate what they desire; thus they pervert justice.

⁴ The best of them is like a brier, the most upright of them a thorn hedge.

The day of their sentinels, of their punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand.

⁵ Put no trust in a friend; have no confidence in a loved one; guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your embrace,

⁶ for the son treats the father with contempt, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; your enemies are members of your own household.

⁷ But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

Penitence and Trust in God ⁸ Do not rejoice over me, my enemies; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me.

HYMN #335

**Jesus keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
Free to all a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.
In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;
Till my ransomed soul shall find, rest beyond the river.**

SONG "Rock of Ages" - Hymn 623
Brian and Nancy Schmidt

HYMN #715

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see. Christ be our Light!
Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.
Christ be our Light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

SONG "You Are My Hiding Place" – Michael Ledner
Amber Beam and Roberta Bochtler

Let us pray.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous, and all for your love's sake. Amen

HYMN #746

**Our Father, God in heaven above
We pray united in our love.
Your name be hallowed.
Help us, Lord, in faithfulness to keep your word.
Your Kingdom come; your will be done
On earth as there before your throne.**

SONG "Give Me Jesus" – arr. Kristin Campbell
Janet Carlon, violin

HYMN #345

**Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
Let your Spirit now endow me for meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
Of your suffering, pain, and death, that I may not perish.**

SONG "God Loved the World" – Hymn 323
Jordan Kahl

HYMN #592

**Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidst me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

HYMN #759

**My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!**

SONG "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" – Hymn 751
Chloe Jessen, flute

HYMN #599

**Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;
From selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.**

“Father, forgive them. They don’t know what they do.”
(First candle is extinguished.)

SONG “Be Still and Know” – Lee Herrington
Laurie Miller

HYMN #605

**“Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us, Lord, to pray;
But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.**

“O Lord Hear My Prayer” – Hymn 751

Janet Carlon, violin

“I thirst.”
(Second candle is extinguished.)

SONG “Christ, the life of All the Living” – Hymn 339
Dan Kahl, accompanied by Janet Carlon

HYMN #629

**Hold thou the cross before my closing eyes,
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heaven’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee’
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

“My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”
(Third candle is extinguished.)

SONG “They Crucified My Lord” – Hymn 350
Martha Kersbergen and Ilene Olson

HYMN #600

**Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord God, hear me calling.
Incline your ear to my distress in spite of my rebelling.
Do not regard my sinful deeds.
Send me the grace my spirit needs;
Without it I am nothing.**

SONG “O Lord, Hear My Prayer” – Hymn 751
Chloe Jessen, flute

SONG “By the Waters of Babylon” – Hal Hopson
Melodibells

SONG "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" – Mark Palmer Ladd
Dan Kahl and Jordan Kahl

HYMN #666

**What wondrous live is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.**

"Woman, behold your son. – Behold your mother."
(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

SONG "My Song is Love Unknown" – Hymn 343
Angie Jessen and Chloe Jessen

HYMN #349

**Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee
I do adore thee and will ever pray thee;
Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.**

"Father into your hands I commit my spirit."
(The fifth candle is extinguished.)

SONG "There Is a Redeemer" – arr. Bruce Greer
Helen Patterson

HYMN #351

**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.**

SONG "Were You There" – Hymn 353
Mark Gustafson, Chuck Reetz, Brian Schmidt, Dave Lemke, Dan Kahl

HYMN #357

**Lamb of God, pure and sinless, once on the cross an offering,
Patient, lowly, guiltless, forsaken in your suffering.
You died our guilt to banish that none in seed need perish.
Your peace be with us, O Jesus. Amen**

SONG “Precious Lord, Take My Hands” – Thomas A. Dorsey
 Chuck and Leslie Reetz

“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”
(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

HYMN #616

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

READING Revelation 7:13-17 Laurie Wagner

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one who knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

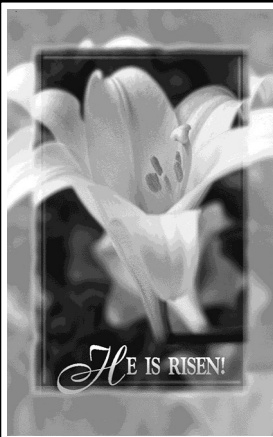
¹⁶ They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

“It is finished.”
(The seventh candle is carried out.)

BENEDICTION “Thanks Be To Thee” – C. F. Handel
 The Choir

The congregation is invited to depart in silence



**Everyone is invited to celebrate the
Risen Christ on
Sunday, March 31
8:00 am Breakfast
9:30 am worship.**

Please return your Lenten Coin Holder by Easter

All donations support ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church.

We will send all donations in together.

ELCA World Hunger is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies —relief, development, education, and advocacy— to address the root causes of hunger and poverty. ELCA World Hunger responds to neighbors around the corner and around the world.

*If you would like credit on your offering statement,
please put your name on the back of the folder.*

Ushers: Roger & Vicky Harris

Council on Duty: Leslie Reetz

Mission Statement

In celebration of God's grace, given through Jesus Christ, we seek to grow through worship, teaching, fellowship and reaching out with our gifts to share the gospel and serve the needs of all people.

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PASTOR DAN KAHL
ROBERTA BOCHTLER— Organist/Choir Director
KEVIN LINGNER— Office Administrator
ABIE SELTZ— Youth Coordinator