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TENEBRAE (SERVICE OF DARKNESS) – GOOD FRIDAY 2020

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Lord Jesus, Beautiful Savior, Son of God and Son of man, we thank and praise you that on this worst of all days – yet a day that is indeed good – you were nailed to the tree of the cross. We praise you for being rejected by your Father so that we may be accepted by our Father for all eternity, for dying so that we may live. Even as we grieve over our sins that were the cause of your anguish and death, we also celebrate the fact that "It is finished" and there is nothing left that we must do. There is no work, no goodness, no righteousness that we need to add to yours, because yours is indeed enough. Help us to live for you in thanks today and every day.

HYMN GOD WAS THERE ON CALVARY CW 140

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING PSALM 22:1-19

- P: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
- C: Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?
- P: O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent. Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel.
- C: In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.
- P: They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.
- C: But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people.
- P: All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:
- C: "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."
- P: Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.
- C: From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother's womb you have been my God. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
- P: Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- C: Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.
- P: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.
- C: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death.
- P: Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet.
- C: I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me.
- P: They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.
- C: But you, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me.

FIRST READING **LUKE 23:24-34**

So Pilate decided to grant their demand. He released the man who had been thrown into prison Jerusalem, do not weep for me; for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will. As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of the hills, "Cover us!" For if men people followed him, including women who mourned and

wailed for him. Jesus turned and is dry?" Two other men, both said to them, "Daughters of weep for yourselves and for vour children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then "they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it

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." And they divided up his clothes by casting

The First Word: "Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing."

JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES HYMN

CW 139 Stanza 1

Jesus, in your dying woes, Even while your life-blood flows. Craving pardon for your foes, Hear us, holy Jesus!

(The first candle is extinguished)

- P: Our merciful Savior forgave the sins of those who nailed him to the cross. It was for our sin that he was crucified. Let us then confess our sins and seek that forgiveness which he promises to us through his death on the cross of Calvary.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I have done what is evil, and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment, both now, and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us, and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins, in the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Second Reading 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."

The Second Word: "In truth I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

HYMN JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES

CW 139

Stanza 2 & text 3 TLH 181

Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near you dies. Promising him paradise: Hear us, Holy Jesus!

May we in our guilt and shame, Still your love and mercy claim, Calling humbly on your name. Hear us, holy Jesus!

(The second candle is extinguished)

THIRD READING JOHN 19:25-27

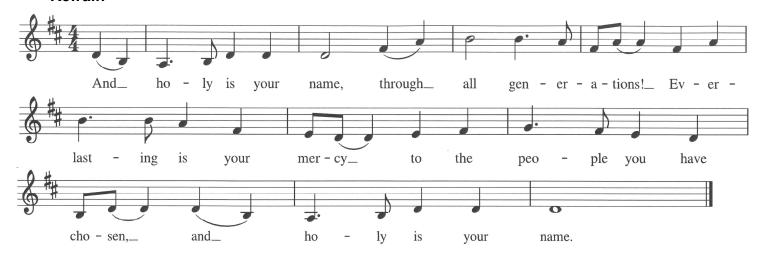
Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple,
"Here is your mother." From that
time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

The Third Word: "Woman, this is your son. This is your mother."

HOLY IS YOUR NAME

Choir sings verses and first refrain; Congregation sings all subsequent refrains

Refrain



- My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my savior:
 You have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people. Refrain
- I am lowly as a child, but I know from this day forward
 That my name will be remembered, for all will call me blessed. Refrain
- 3. I proclaim the pow'r of God, you do marvels for your servants;
 Though you scatter the proud hearted, and destroy the might of princes. Refrain
- 4. To the hungry you give food, send the rich away empty.
 In your mercy you are mindful of the people you have chosen. Refrain
- 5. In your love you now fulfill what you promised to your people.
 I will praise you Lord, my savior, everlasting is your mercy. Refrain

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(The third candle is extinguished)

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."

FOURTH READING MATTHEW 27:45-47

The Fourth Word: "Eloi, Eloi, Iama sabachthani?"-which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

CW 127 Stanzas 2-3

Tell me, as you hear Him groaning, Was there ever grief like His? Friends through fear His cause disowning, Foes insulting His distress; Many hands were raised to wound Him, None would intervene to save; But the deepest stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that Justice gave.

You who think of sin but lightly Nor suppose the evil great Here may view its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate. Mark the Sacrifice appointed, See who bears the awful load; 'Tis the WORD, the LORD'S ANOINTED, Son of Man and Son of God.

(The fourth candle is extinguished)

FIFTH READING JOHN 19:28-29

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.

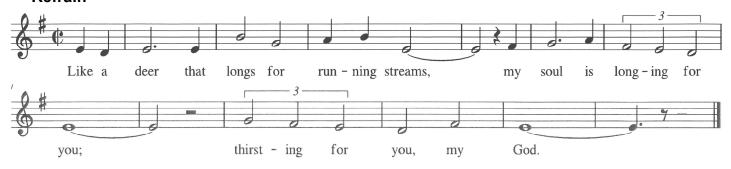
The Fifth Word: "I am thirsty."

PSALM 42-43

Marty Haugen

Choir sings verses and first refrain; Congregation sings all subsequent refrains

Refrain



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My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; When shall I come and behold the face of God? **Refrain**

I go with the throng to the house of God; with cries of our joy, and our songs of thanks and praise.

Refrain

Send forth your light and your truth, O God; Bring me at last to your holy dwelling place. **Refrain**

Then will I go to the altar of God; come unto the God of my gladness and my joy. **Refrain**

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

Sixth Reading John 19:30

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

The Sixth Word: The Fulfilled Word

HYMN OH, PERFECT LIFE OF LOVE

CW 138

Stanzas 1 & 2

O perfect life of love! All, all, is finished now, All that He left His throne above To do for us below.

No work is left undone Of all the Father willed; His toil, His sorrows, one by one, The Scriptures have fulfilled.

OFFERING Go to DARK GETHSEMANE David von Kampen

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r; Your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour; Turn not from his griefs away; Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall; View the Lord of life arraigned. Oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suff'ring, pain or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at his feet, Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" hear him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid his breathless clay; All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

PRAYER

- P: Heavenly Father, you are a just God who accepts nothing less than perfection. All too often we fail to realize how much our sins offend you. We forget that the wages of sin truly is death. We forget that there actually is a hell. Lead us to recognize the seriousness of our sinfulness. Lead us also to admit our inability to make things right with you.
- C: Teach us to look to you as the only one who can make us just and right.
- P: Today we are reminded not only of your justice but also of your love. You did not spare your own Son but gave him as a ransom for each one of us. Comfort us with the knowledge of this great love. Give us the peace that the forgiveness of sins brings.
- C: When we feel our guilt, point us to the cross, where our guilt was washed away in Jesus' blood.
- P: Lord Jesus, we thank you for paying the debt that we could not pay. We thank you for coming to earth so that we could be with you forever in heaven.
- C: For being our perfect substitute, we thank you, Lord Jesus.

- P: Son of God, you offered up your body as an unblemished sacrifice for sin and commended your spirit into the hands of your Father. Teach us to cast the cares of this brief life on our heavenly Father and commit our bodies and souls to his love.
- C: Give us the courage to face death, knowing that it is the gate to our home in heaven.
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we offer our personal thanks for the forgiveness that you have given us and for the home that you have won for us.

Silent prayer.

- P: The cross was once an instrument of death. It is now a sign of life.
- C: Dear Savior, we humbly kneel at the cross in awe of your power and of your love. Amen.
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LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ANTHEM

LORD, YOU I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART

Lord, let at last your angels come;

to Abram's bosom bear me home that I may die unfearing.

And in its narrow chamber keep my body safe

in peaceful sleep until your reappearing.

And then from death awaken me

that my own eyes with joy may see.

O Son of God, your glorious face,

My Savior and my Fount of grace.

Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

my prayer attend, and I will praise you without end.

SEVENTH READING **LUKE 23:44-56**

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. for the sun stopped shining. And from Galilee, stood at a the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with Now there was a man named a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a Arimathea and he was waiting righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took body. Then he took it down, place, they beat their breasts

and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him distance, watching these things. Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' wrapped it in linen cloth and

placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

The Seventh Word: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

(Extinguishing of the seventh candle and the Strepitus [closing of the sepulcher])

The Christ Candle is removed, but then will be returned to the altar to symbolize the hope that still remains in anticipation of the Resurrection.

The congregation will dismiss itself in silence, but will greet one another again on Easter morning with the celebration of our Lord's resurrection from death.

† † †

PASTOR **ORGANIST** MIXED CHOIR SOLOISTS

VIOLIN

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee Laura Balza Bethel Boeder Kiara Ristow Ben Strackbein Alan Uher

