



GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

THE NAILS OF THE CROSS AND TENEBRAE

**The American Lutheran Church of Windom
Bethany Lutheran of Bergen
Pastors Sarah Tadé & Adam Roberts
Friday, April 2nd, 2021, 6:00 PM**

SERVICE INFORMATION

The service tonight is known as the “Service of the Nails.” It is a series of readings, responses, and silent reflection and prayer designed to help us enter more deeply into the meaning of Good Friday. Everyone should have received a nail when they entered the sanctuary. Keep it with you for use later during the service. Let us now prepare in silence to worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 52:13-15

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him- so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals- so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

HYMN

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

ELW #349

Vs. 1 All, Vs. 2 Small group, Vs. 3 Women, Vs. 4 Men & Vs. 5 All

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

C: O merciful God, you did not spare your only Son, but offered him up for us all, that he might bear our sins upon the cross. Help us examine ourselves so that we recognize our own sinfulness, how we drive the nails of our sins into his cross today. Transform us into more faithful disciples in his name. Amen.

THE NAILS OF THE CROSS

THE NAIL OF BETRAYAL

John 18:1-11

EXTINGUISHING OF THE FIRST LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of Silence)

L: O God- help us consider how we betray others, how we abandon them in their time of need, how we think of ourselves first.

C: O God- do not let us deceive ourselves. Our acts of betrayal hurt us and create walls between us and others.

L: O God, we know that our betrayal hurts you, too.

SUNG RESPONSE

ELW # 353

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Ohh..sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble;**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

THE NAIL OF DENIAL

John 18: 12-18, 25-27

EXTINGUISHING OF THE SECOND LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of silence)

L: O God – help us consider how we deny you, of the times when we are ashamed or hesitant to proclaim your Gospel.

C: O God – do not let us deceive ourselves. Our denial hurts us and creates walls between others and you.

L: O God, we know our denial hurts you, too.

THE NAIL OF PRIDE

John 18: 19-24

EXTINGUISHING OF THE THIRD LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of silence)

L: O God- help us consider our own pride and where it leads.

C: O God – do not let us deceive ourselves. Our pride hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

L: O God, we know our pride hurts you, too.

SUNG RESPONSE

**Were you there when they struck the Son of God?
Were you there when they struck the Son of God?
Ohh...sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble;
Were you there when they struck the Son of God?**

THE NAIL OF POWER

John 18: 28-19:16

EXTINGUISHING OF THE FOURTH LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of silence)

L: O God – help us consider our love of power, how we trust more in power than in you, how we use power for our own gain.

C: O God – do not let us deceive ourselves. Our love of power hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

L: O God, we know that our love of power hurts you , too.

SUNG RESPONSE

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Ohh...sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble;
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

THE NAIL OF CRUELTY

John 19: 17-30

EXTINGUISHING OF THE FIFTH LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of silence)

L: O God – help us consider how we are cruel to others, how we malign and slander others and add to the evil that comes upon them.

C: O God – do not let us deceive ourselves. Our cruelty hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

L: O God, we know that our cruelty hurts you too.

SUNG RESPONSE

**Were you there when they killed the son of God?
Were you there when they killed the son of God?
Ohh...sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble;
Were you there when they killed the son of God?**

THE NAIL OF DESPAIR

John 19: 31-42

EXTINGUISHING OF THE FINAL LIGHT

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

(Time of silence)

L: O God- help us consider how we give in to despair, how we give in when you call us to trust in you.

C: O God- do not let us deceive ourselves. Our despair hurts us and creates walls between us and others.

L: O God, we know that our despair hurts you, too.

SUNG RESPONSE

**Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Ohh...sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble;
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?**

OUR SINS ON THE CROSS

ACT OF CONFESSION

Isaiah 53: 4-6

L: Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God and afflicted.

C: But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities.

L: Upon him was the punishment that made us whole and by his bruises we are healed.

C: We have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

As the music to “Were You There” is played the congregation is asked to come forward with their nail and drive it partway into the cross placed in front of the church.

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

ELW #351

(Please depart in silence)

Adapted from the service “The Nails of the Cross”
By Rev. Richard J. Fairchild & Charlene E. Fairchild, 1993-2006

Worship Note:

As we leave with Christ in the tomb, we invite you to sit in silence for as long as you need. This is a time of prayer and reflection, as we recall the death and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. If there is anything you wish to be released from, any fault, any failing, any brokenness or sin that you wish to bury with Christ, we invite you to pray and place those broken places in your life in the tomb of Christ. On Easter morning, when we proclaim the tomb to be empty and Christ raised from the dead, those things that kept you from relationship with God and others may be proclaimed gone and forgiven as well. Our prayer for you this Holy Week is that Easter morning be a dawning of a new chapter in your life. Rest deeply tonight trusting God is with you always and that nothing can separate you from the love God has for you.

Please leave in silence as we mourn the death of our Lord.

EASTER WORSHIP.....

The Resurrection of Our Lord

- 8:00 AM Festival Easter Worship with Holy Communion
- 9:30 AM Bethany Lutheran Worship
- 11:00 AM Festival Easter Worship with Holy Communion

The wealth we have has its source in God.. “But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth” (Deut. 8:18).