

# Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

P.O. Box 10, Belgrade, MN 56312  
320-254-3249

[bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com](mailto:bgcrgparishmn@gmail.com)

**April 7, 2023 – Good Friday**

*Welcome in Jesus' name.*

*We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.*



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

April 7, 2023

Good Friday

*Good Friday*

*Our worship this evening tells the story of God's love for us revealed in the self-giving sacrifice of Jesus Christ's death on the cross for our sake. The altar has been stripped at the conclusion of last night's Maundy Thursday service, representing the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the consequences of betrayal and sin.*

*The word Tenebrae is a Latin word meaning "darkness or shadows". The lighted candles represent the seven sayings of Jesus from the cross.*

**\*Apostolic Greeting:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*The Prayer of the Day:**

Almighty God, **look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading:**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, [pastorlisanne@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisanne@gmail.com)  
Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson, [bhandeljohnson@gmail.com](mailto:bhandeljohnson@gmail.com)  
Secretary, Sue Wiener

## Good Friday Sermon

### First Reading:

John 18:1-12

(Jesus is betrayed in Gethsemane and arrested)

### Response:

L: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?

**C: My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer; by night, but I find no rest.**

L: Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**C: Our ancestors put their trust in you, they trusted, and you rescued them.**

L: They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

L: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

### Silence

**Hymn** "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" ELW #599 (vs. 1-2)

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

2 Lord Jesus, think on me, by anxious thoughts oppressed;  
let me your loving servant be and taste your promised rest.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.

**+The first candle is extinguished+**

### Second Reading:

John 18:13-24

(Jesus is brought to trial and questioned)

### Response:

L: But as for me, I am a worm and not human, scorned by all and despised by the people.

**C: All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips; they shake their heads.**

L: "Trust in the Lord; let the Lord deliver; let God rescue him if God so delights in him."

**C: Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb, and kept me safe on my mother's breast.**

L: I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

L: Let us pray for God's creation.

### Silence

**\*Hymn:** "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" ELW #599 (vs. 3-4)

3 Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity point out your chosen way.

4 Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.

**+The second candle is extinguished+**

**Third Reading:**

John 18:25-40

(Peter denies Jesus; Jesus is questioned in Pilate's court)

**Response:**

L: Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

**C: Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**

L: They open wide their jaws at me, like a slashing and roaring lion.

**C: I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

L: My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of death.

**C: Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me; they pierce my hands and my feet.**

L: I can count all my bones while they stare at me and gloat.

L: Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

**Silence****Special Music:** "What Wondrous Love" Oboe/Trombone Duet**+The third candle is extinguished+****Fourth Reading:**

John 19:1-16

(Jesus is mocked, condemned, and taken away to be crucified)

**Response:**

L: They divide my garments among them; for my clothing, they cast lots.

**C: But you, O Lord, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.**

L: Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

**C: Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of the wild bulls you have rescued me.**

L: I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

L: Let us pray for those in need.

**Silence****Hymn:**

"O Sacred Head"

ELW #351 (vs. 1-2)

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.

2 How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;  
 how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn!  
 Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain;  
 mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite**+The fourth candle is extinguished+**

**Fifth Reading:**  
(Jesus is nailed to the cross)

John 19:16b-25

**Response:**

L: You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

**C: For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.**

L: From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

**C: The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

L: Let us Pray.

**C: Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn:** "O Sacred Head" ELW #351 (vs. 3-4)

3 What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,  
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?  
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

4 Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;  
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.  
These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move;  
for all who die believing die safely in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

**+The fifth candle is extinguished+**

**Sixth Reading:**  
(The witnesses at the cross; Jesus' death)

John 19:25b-30

**Response:**

L: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**C: For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.**

L: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

**C: all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.**

L: Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

**Silence**

**Hymn:** "Were You There" ELW #353 (vs. 1,2,3,5)

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 pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

5 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?

Text: African American spiritual

**+The sixth candle is extinguished+**

**Seventh Reading:**

John 19:31-42

(The soldiers pierce Jesus' side; his burial)

**Response:**

L: Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

**C: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"**

**Hymn:** "Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW #349 (vs. 1-3)

1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted.

2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

3 Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;  
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;  
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,  
God interceded.

4 For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.

5 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.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.

**+The seventh candle is extinguished+**

L: Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

**Silence**

**Special Music:** “How Deep the Father’s Love” Stuart Townend

1 How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

2 Behold the man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

3 I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

Stuart Townend

**\*The Lord’s Prayer:** (whispered)

**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.**

*As we depart in silence, the congregation is invited to solemnly reflect on the love of God shown in Jesus Christ, who as God in the flesh, humbled himself to death for our sake.*

*The story of God’s love continues as we gather for Easter Worship. May the Holy Spirit guide your reflection and draw you ever closer to our crucified and risen Lord.*

*Go in peace.*