

# Christ Our Redeemer



April 2, 2021

Pastor Tom Engelbrecht

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17700 E Iliff Avenue, Aurora, CO 80013

[www.christredeemer.church](http://www.christredeemer.church)

303-337-3108

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## The Tenebrae Service

The Tenebrae Service is a tradition in the Christian Church, which is used in the last days of Holy Week to impress upon the hearts of believers the awful consequences of sin and the magnitude of the Savior's sacrifice.

The word "Tenebrae" means darkness and indicates the darkness which covered the earth at the time of Christ's crucifixion. This darkness is visually portrayed in the service through the gradual extinguishing of the candles and other lights in the church. The candles represent the disciples and other followers of the Lord. They all gradually take to flight. The ensuing darkness symbolizes the growing hatred and resentment of the world against the Savior.

The single candle represents the Savior Himself. It is removed from the altar to symbolize the death of Jesus. The candle is not extinguished but is carried out of the Church. (*"A little while and you shall not see me" John 16:16.*)

After the Lord's Prayer, a time of silence is observed. The silence is broken by the slamming of the Bible, signifying the closing of the tomb. The benediction is omitted until Easter morning.

After the slamming of the Bible the congregation will depart in silence. The lights of the church are not turned on. There is no music played until Easter morning.

The congregation remains seated for the entire service, until the final prayers. Upon completion of the service, the congregation will please leave in a manner that maintains the spirit of the worship just completed. In order that we may preserve a devotional atmosphere, the pastor will not greet the worshipers after the service as is usually done.

## Prayer before the Service (for private meditation):

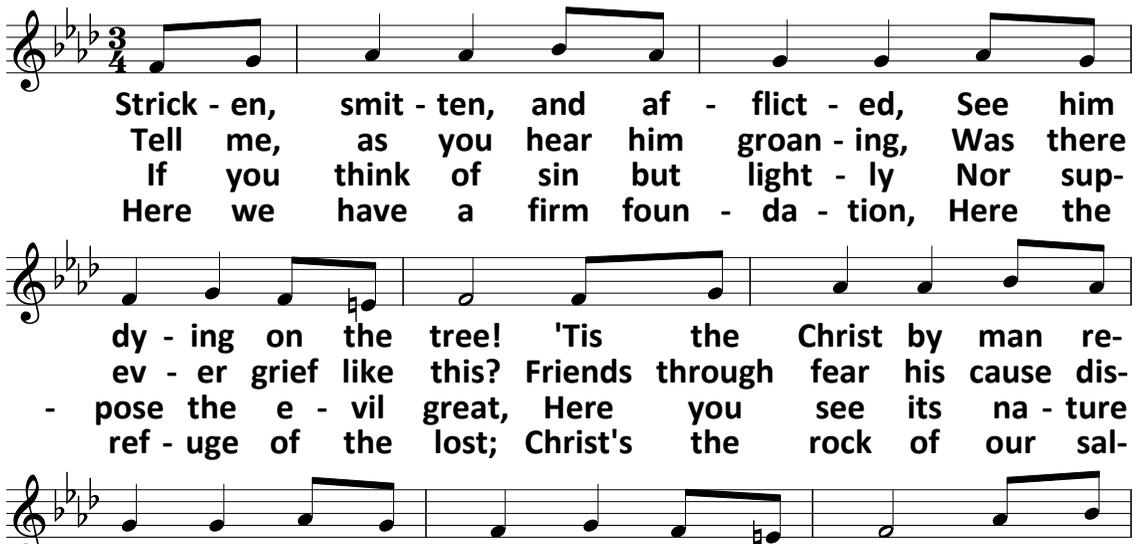
Lord Jesus Christ, we have gathered around your cross tonight to remember your death. At your cross let us see all the ugliness, horror, and misery that sin, death, and Satan brought into the world and that you willingly took on yourself. Open our eyes to see that we deserved the death and torments of hell that you suffered for us. Open our eyes also to see that by your death you destroyed death, made peace between us and the Father, and purchased us to belong to you forever. Help us believe that we are worth that much to you. Fill us with joy and peace in believing that we are truly free from condemnation and forgiven by the Father. Help us to give our lives to you, who gave yourself to us. Amen.

## The Service of Seven Words

### HYMN

### *“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”*

CW 127 Text and Tune: Public Domain Setting: ©1982 Concordia Publishing House



Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, See him  
Tell me, as you hear him groan - ing, Was there  
If you think of sin but light - ly Nor sup -  
Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the  
dy - ing on the tree! 'Tis the Christ by man re -  
ev - er grief like this? Friends through fear his cause dis -  
- pose the e - vil great, Here you see its na - ture  
ref - uge of the lost; Christ's the rock of our sal -  
- ject - ed, Yes my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he. 'Tis the  
- own - ing, Foes in - sult - ing his dis - tress, Man - y  
right - ly, Here its guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the  
- va - tion, His the name of which we boast. Lamb of

*Continued on next page*

long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da-vid's  
hands were raised to wound him, None would in - ter-vene to  
sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed; See who bears the aw - ful  
God, for sin - ners wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel

Lord; Proofs I see suf - fi - cient of it 'Tis the  
save, But the deep - est stroke that pierced him Was the  
load- 'Tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of  
guilt- None shall ev - er be con - found - ed Who on

true	and	faith	-	ful	Word.
stroke	that	Jus	-	tice	gave.
Man	and	Son		of	God.
him	their	hope		have	built.

## Psalm 22

*The clearest Biblical description of the suffering and agony Jesus endured on the cross was given over 900 years beforehand in prophecy through King David.*

*As we share the Psalm, learn of the suffering of Jesus for our sins.*

Pastor: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Congregation: 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,

**C: by night, and am not silent.**

P: Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;

**C: you are the praise of Israel.**

P: In you our fathers put their trust;

**C: they trusted and you delivered them.**

P: They cried to you and were saved;

**C: in you they trusted and were not disappointed.**

P: But I am a worm and not a man,

**C: scorned by men and despised by the people.**

P: All who see me mock me;

**C: they hurl insults, shaking their heads:**

P: "He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him.

**C: Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."**

P: Yet you brought me out of the womb;

**C: you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.**

P: From birth I was cast upon you;

**C: from my mother's womb you have been my God.**

P: Do not be far from me,

**C: for trouble is near and there is no one to help.**

P: Many bulls surround me;

**C: strong bulls of Bashan (*ba-shn*) encircle me.**

P: Roaring lions tearing their prey

**C: open their mouths wide against me.**

P: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.

**C: My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me.**

P: My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

**C: you lay me in the dust of death.**

P: Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me,

**C: they have pierced my hands and my feet.**

P: I can count all my bones;

**C: People stare and gloat over me.**

P: They divide my garments among them

**C: and cast lots for my clothing.**

P: But you, O LORD, be not far off;

**C: O my Strength, come quickly to help me.**

P: Deliver my life from the sword,

**C: My precious life from the power of the dogs.**

P: Rescue me from the mouth of the lions;

**C: Save me from the horns of the wild oxen.**

# We Stand Forgive at the Cross

## SERMON—Romans 5:1-2

*<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.*

## Prayer for Good Friday

P: God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

## FIRST WORD—Luke 23:26-34

*<sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. <sup>28</sup>Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>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!’ <sup>30</sup>Then “they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!”*

*<sup>3</sup>For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”*

*<sup>32</sup>Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. <sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.*

## RESPONSIVE READING: Romans 5:6-8

P: You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

**C: Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die.**

P: But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:

**C: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

**HYMN**

**“Christ, the Life of All the Living”**

CW 114:1-3 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Christ, the Life of all the liv-ing, Christ, the Death of  
Thou, ah, thou hast tak-en on thee Bonds and stripes, a  
Thou hast borne the smit-ing on - ly That my wounds might



death, our foe, Who, thy - self for me once giv - ing  
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on thee,  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,



To the dark - est depths of woe-  
O thou sin - less Son of God!  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul;



-Through thy suf-f'rings, death and mer-it, I e - ter - nal  
Thus didst thou my soul de - liv - er From the bonds of  
Yea, the curse of God en - dur-ing, Bless-ing un - to



life in - her - it. Thou - sand, thou - sand, thanks shall be,  
sin for - ev - er.  
me se - cur - ing.



Dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

**SECOND WORD—**Luke 23:38-43

<sup>38</sup>*There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.*

<sup>39</sup>*One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”*

<sup>40</sup>*But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup>We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”*

<sup>42</sup>*Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”*

<sup>43</sup>*Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

**RESPONSIVE READING:** 1 Peter 2:9-10

**P:** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God,

**C:** that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

**P:** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God;

**C:** once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**HYMN**

**“Christ, the Life of All the Living”**

CW 114:5-7 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain

**Thou hast suffered men to bruise thee That from pain I might be free;  
Falsely did thy foes accuse thee – Thence I gain security.**

**Comfortless thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish  
Thousand, thousand, thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,  
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me.**

**Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented  
Thousand, thousand, thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.**

**Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For thy sorrow’s deep and sore,  
For thine anguish in the garden, I will thank thee evermore,  
Thank thee for thy groaning, sighing, For thy bleeding and thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise thee, Lord, on high.**

### THIRD WORD—John 19:25-27

<sup>25</sup>Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>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," <sup>27</sup>and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

### RESPONSIVE READING: I John 4:16-19

P: God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

**C: In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him.**

P: There is no fear in love.

**C: But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.**

P: We love because he first loved us.

### HYMN

### "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

CW 105:1, 4 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



**FOURTH WORD—**Matthew 27:45-49

<sup>45</sup>From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. <sup>46</sup>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?”

<sup>47</sup>When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.”

<sup>48</sup>Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. <sup>49</sup>The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

**RESPONSIVE READING:** 1 Peter 1:18-19

**P:** You know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers,

**C:** but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

**HYMN**

**“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”**

CW 105:5-7 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain

**What language shall I borrow To thank you, dearest Friend.**

**For this, your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?**

**Oh, make me yours forever, And keep me strong and true;**

**Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love for you.**

**My Savior, then be near me When death is at my door,  
And let your presence cheer me; Forsake me nevermore!**

**When soul and body languish, Oh, leave me not alone,**

**But take away my anguish By virtue of your own!**

**Lord, be my consolation, My shield when I must die;  
Remind me of your passion When my last hour draws nigh.**

**My eyes will then behold you, Upon your cross will dwell;**

**My heart will then enfold you – Who dies in faith dies well!**

**FIFTH WORD—**John 19:28-29

<sup>28</sup>Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” <sup>29</sup>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.

**RESPONSIVE READING**—Hebrews 4:15-16

P: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,  
**C: but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.**

P: Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence,

**C: So that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

**CHOIR**—“Lamb of God” Text: Nikolaus Decius Tune: O LAMM GOTTES, UNSCHULDIG ©1998 G.I.A. Publications

Lamb of God pure and holy, Who on the cross did suffer, Ever patient and lowly,  
Yourself to scorn did offer. All our sins you bore for us So no despair may rule over us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

**SIXTH WORD**—John 19:30

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

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Romans 5 (selected verses)

P: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**C: through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.**

P: Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!

**C: For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son,**

P: how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so,

**C: but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

P: Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men,

**C: so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men.**

## HYMN

## “Oh, Perfect Life of Love”

CW 138:1-2, 5 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Oh, per-fect life of love! All, all is fin-ished now,  
No work is left un-done Of all the Fa-ther willed;  
In per-fect love he dies; For me he dies for me!



All that he left his throne a-bove To do for us be-low.  
His toil, his sor-rows, one by one, The Scrip-ture here ful-filled.  
O all-a-ton-ing Sac-ri-fice, You died to make me free!

## SEVENTH WORD—Luke 23:44-46

<sup>44</sup> It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, <sup>45</sup> for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last.

## RESPONSIVE READING—Colossians 2:13-15

P: When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ.

**C: He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and stood opposed to us;**

P: He took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities,

**C: he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**

## **CONGREGATION & SOLO—“Power of the Cross”**

Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend ©2005 THANKYOU MUSIC

***The congregation will join in on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> refrain.  
The words will be viewable on the television screen.***

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day, Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then Nailed to a cross of wood.

REFRAIN: This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath Quakes as its Maker bows his head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life, "Finished!" the vict'ry cry.

CONGREGATION REFRAIN: This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us.  
Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, For through your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, Won through Your selfless love.

CONGREGATION REFRAIN: This, the pow'r of the cross: Son of God slain for us.  
What a love, what a cost. We stand forgiven at the cross.

## **PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

***After the Lord's Prayer a time of silence is observed,  
broken by the slamming of the Bible which  
signifies the closing of the tomb.***

***One candle, representing the Savior himself,  
is left burning and removed from the altar,  
this symbolizes the death of our Savior.***

***The lit candle is carried out of the sanctuary  
and the congregation ushered out in silence,  
in honor and remembrance of Jesus' death.  
Please feel free to remain in meditation.***