



Good Friday

April 3, 2026

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Benedictus (Blessed Is He)"

Francois Couperin

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Minister: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. For he didn't consider equality with God something to be grasped, but he emptied himself, even unto death on a cross. As we wait for the day of resurrection let us look to Jesus.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,

All: who redeems us from sin and death.

Liturgist: For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Choir: "Father, Forgive Them"

Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Liturgist: Almighty God, look with 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;

All: that same Christ who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

* **All Singing: 175 "When I Survey the Wonderous Cross"**

Reconciliation

Liturgist: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out to be executed.

All: **One of the criminals hurled insults at him, “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us.”**

Liturgist: But the other criminal rebuked him, “Don’t you fear God, since we are all under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

All: **Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”**
Luke 23:32-42 adapted

Silent Confession and Reflection

Choir: “Today You Will Be With Me”

Today you will be with me in paradise.
Remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
O Lord, hear me!

Liturgist: Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

All: **Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby.**
John 19:25-26

Choir: “Behold Your Son”

Behold your son.
At the cross her station keeping, stood mournful mother weeping.
Behold your mother.
From the cross, he spoke to the disciple, John whom he loved.

Minister: Dear friends, the Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. He was before all things and in him all things hold together. And, he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or in heaven, by making peace through his blood shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:15-20 adapted

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Proclamation

* **All Singing:** **755 “Speak, O Lord”**

Liturgist: It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS. They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself.”

At noon, darkness came over the whole land...

Mark 15:25-33 adapted

Choir: “I Thirst”

I thirst!
If you are Christ, come down from the cross, that we might see and believe.
If you are King, save yourself, that we might see and believe.

Choir: "My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me?"
My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Choir: "Into Your Hands I Surrender My Soul"
Into your hands I surrender my soul.
Not mine, but your will be done.

Silent Reflection

Eucharist

INSTITUTION
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COMMUNION

All Singing: 840 "Behold the Lamb"
168 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Sending

BENEDICTION

Choir: "It Is Finished"

And with a loud voice, Jesus cried, exclaiming: It is finished.
Darkened was the sun, darkness covered the earth;
torn was the veil; the earth did quake;
all the graves were opened wide!
Truly this man was the Son of God.

Please exit the sanctuary in silence

Seven Last Words by Michael John Trotta

Michael John Trotta's new major choral work, *Seven Last Words*, is a seven-movement choral journey through the Passion. Haunting and evocative, the work displays a superb sense of form and architecture, poignantly distilling the most intimate and universal moments of human emotion. From the tender mercy of "Father, Forgive Them" (1) to the hopefulness of the promise of "Today You Will Be With Me" (2), the work unfolds to reveal a complex tapestry of states of emotion. It builds from the compassion of "Behold, Your Son" (3) and the yearning of "I Thirst" (4), to the despair of "My God Why Have You Abandoned Me?" (5), the acceptance of "Into Your Hands I Surrender" (6), and finally the resignation of "It is Finished" (7). This setting uses various interpolations of biblical and liturgical texts (e.g. Kyrie, "Truly This Man Was the Son of God," "All of the Gates Were Opened Wide") as commentary on, and in dialogue with, the words of Christ, further expanding the story and the reaction of those witness to the Passion.

A magnificent example of a unique compositional voice that acknowledges and includes tradition (recalling the work of composers such as Bach and Beethoven), *Seven Last Words* transcends the boundaries of genre (with modern cinematic and minimalist techniques) and conveys a powerful and emotive drama.

Worship Leaders

Organist: Dora Diephouse
Pianist: Anna Triezenberg-Sims
Liturgist: Anne VanderWeele
Minister: Roger Nelson

Choir & Guest Musicians

David Baar, *Conductor*

Cindy Fudala, *Flute*
Amy Barwan, *Oboe*
Mark Olen, *Trumpet*
Carey Deadman, *Trumpet*
Peter Jirousek, *Horn*
Joe Sonnefeldt, *Timpani*
Renee Wilson, *Harp*
Michele Lekas, *Violin*
Kristen Wiersum, *Violin*
Matt Barwegen, *Viola*
Emily Mantell, *Cello*
Jason Niehoff, *Bass*

Soprano:

Mary Bontekoe
Ginny Carpenter
Roz DeBoer
Patricia DeJong
Dora Diephouse
Kristin Izenbart
Jan Kosmal
Deb Kruizenga
Kim Ottenhoff
Nadia Swearingen-Friesen

Alto:

Jackie Archer
Mary Bender
Jane Bosma
Suzy Deese
Lisa Dykstra
Lynn Hollender
Rita Hollender
Sally Larsen
Mary Medema
Kim Ottenhoff
Anna Triezenberg-Sims
Helen Van Wyck

Tenor:

Jon Bontekoe
Dan Diephouse
Josiah Friesen
Mark Friesen
David Larsen
Aron Reppmann

Bass:

Jeff Carpenter
Richard DeJong
Jim Hofman
Russ Hollender
Glenn Medema
Gerrit Veenstra
John Wassenaar

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