

Life On the Edge of Faith
Good Friday Worship Service
April 18, 2025

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body onto 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.

The Hymn “O Sacred Head” (vv. 1 and 2) ELW 351

The First Reading Genesis 3:17-21

Pastor: Let us pray. Dear Father in heaven, grant to all who look to you tonight the assurance that only comes from your total victory over evil. Fill us, Lord, with this life-healing peace. We come before you at the invitation of your Son.

People: In his name we pray.

(Extinguish the first candle)

Meditation

The Hymn “Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me” ELW 623

The Second Reading Genesis 22:10-14

The Sermon Hymn: “Existing on The Edge of Faith”

(Tune: The Church of Christ n Ev’ry Age”)

ELW 729

Existing on the edge of faith,
Christ’s promised peace alone we seek
Grant us the strength to look to you,
We fear our lives are frail and weak.

For those who trust your mercy, Lord,
Great joy is found at every turn.
Help us to bring this to each task,
When thwarted, we for justice yearn.

Teach us the humble road to walk.
Open our hearts to your embrace
Then we can show the world your love,
With acts of mercy, joy, and grace.

Pastor: Let us pray. Dear Father in heaven, grant to all who look to you this night the freedom which grows out of the assurance of our redemption. Fill us, Lord, with your vision of our future. We come before you at the invitation of your Son.

People: In his name we pray. Amen.

(Extinguish the second candle)

Meditation

The Third Reading Isaiah 11:1-3, 6-9

The Hymn “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Pastor: Let us pray. Dear Father in heaven, grant to all who look to you tonight the courage to which freedom gives birth. Fill us, Lord, with your sense of justice. We come before you at the invitation of your Son.

People: In his name we pray. Amen.

(Extinguish the third candle)

Meditation

The Fourth Reading Matthew 1:20-23

The Hymn “O Sacred Head” (vv. 3 and 4) ELW 351

Pastor: Let us pray. Dear Father in heaven, grant to all who look to you this night the faithful joy that fills us up and spills out into the world. Fill us, Lord, with the desire to touch all with your love. We come before you at the invitation of your Son.

People: In his name we pray. Amen.

(Extinguish the fourth candle)

Meditation

The Final Reading Luke 23:44-49

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

The Hymn "Were You There? (vv. 1-3)

ELW 353

(Extinguish the last candle)

(The congregation will leave in silence.)

