



# **HIS FINAL STEPS**

**His Final Steps  
Led to the  
Place of the Skull**

April 7, 2023



Good Friday

**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; should you need the restroom, they are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary.

As you follow along in our service folder, the indented and bold lettering indicates the congregational response. Please note all instructions are in your folder, so there will be no announcements during this service.

**ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: GOOD FRIDAY: SERVICE OF SEVEN WORDS – CWOS, PG. 206**

**SERMON:**

**His Final Steps Led to the Place of the Skull**

**SERMON TEXT**

**LUKE 23: 26 – 33**

**OPENING HYMN:**

**#98**

**JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW**

**\*\*ALL CANDLES ARE LITE\*\***



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On your ho - ly  
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af -  
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see your  
4 If my sins give me a - larm And my con - science  
5 Grant that I your pas - sion view With re - pent - ant



pas - sion; With your Spir - it me en - dow  
flic - tion, Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness  
pas - sion, But its cause to me make known  
grieve me, Let your cross my fear dis - arm;  
griev - ing. Let me not bring shame to you



For such med - i - ta - tion. Grant that I in love  
And your cru - ci - fix - ion; Make me see how scourge  
And its ter - mi - na - tion. Ah! I al - so and  
Peace of con - science give me. Help me see for - give -  
By un - ho - ly liv - ing. How could I re - fuse



## GOOD FRIDAY LESSON:

## Isaiah 53

***Who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot and like a root from dry ground. He had no attractiveness and no majesty. When we saw him, nothing about his appearance made us desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man who knew grief, who was well acquainted with suffering. Like someone whom people cannot bear to look at, he was despised, and we thought nothing of him. Surely, he was taking up our weaknesses, and he was carrying our sufferings.***

***We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten, and afflicted, but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced. He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserved. The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way, but the Lord has charged all our guilt to him. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent in front of its shearers, he did not open his mouth. He was taken away without a fair trial and without justice, and of his generation, who even cared? So, he was cut off from the land of the living. He was struck because of the rebellion of my people. They would have assigned him a grave with the wicked, but he was given a grave with the rich in his death, because he had done no violence, and no deceit was in his mouth.***

***Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and to allow him to suffer. Because you made his life a guilt offering, he will see offspring. He will prolong his days, and the Lord's gracious plan will succeed in his hand. After his soul experiences anguish, he will see the light of life. He will provide satisfaction. Through their knowledge of him, my just servant will justify the many, for he himself carried their guilt. Therefore, I will give him an allotment among the great, and with the strong he will share plunder, because he poured out his life to death, and he let himself be counted with rebellious sinners. He himself carried the sin of many, and he intercedes for the rebels.***

## PRAYER FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

FIRST WORD:

LUKE 23: 26 – 34

*As they led him away, they seized Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country. They placed the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of people was following him, including women who were mourning and wailing for him. Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. Be sure of this: The days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never gave birth, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things to the green wood, what will happen to the dry?" Two other men, who were criminals, were led away with Jesus to be executed. When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified him there with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left.*

*Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." They cast lots to divide his garments among them.*

HYMN:

#119

WERE YOU THERE

**\*\*FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\***



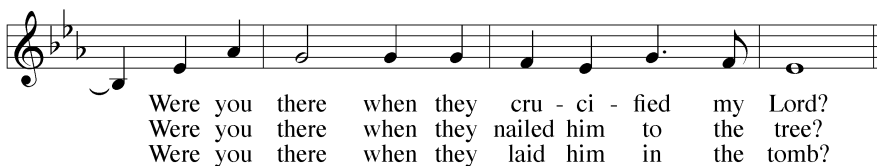
1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you  
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you  
3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh,  
there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh,  
there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh,



some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem - ble.  
some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem - ble.  
some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem - ble.



Text: African-American spiritual, 19th century, abr.  
Tune: WERE YOU THERE (10 10 14 10) African-American spiritual, 19th century, alt.

## SECOND WORD:

LUKE 23: 38 – 43

*There was also an inscription written above him: “This is the King of the Jews.” One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.”*

*Jesus said to him, “Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise.”*

## HYMN:

JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES

#139

vs 1 – 2

**\*\*SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\***

**\*\*MUSIC IS ON PAGE 5\*\***

## THIRD WORD:

JOHN 19: 25 – 27

*Jesus’ mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother!” And from that time this disciple took her into his own home.*

## HYMN:

JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES

#139

vs 3 – 7

**\*\*THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\***

**\*\*MUSIC IS ON PAGE 5\*\***

# HYMN:

#139

## JESUS, IN YOUR DYING WOES



1 Je - sus, in your dy - ing woes, E - ven  
2 Je - sus, pit - y - ing the sighs Of the  
3 Je - sus, lov - ing to the end Her whose  
4 Je - sus, plunged in depths un - known With our  
5 Je - sus, in your thirst and pain, While your



while your life - blood flows, Crav - ing par - don  
thief who near you dies, Prom - is - ing him  
heart your sor - rows rend, And your dear - est  
e - vil foe a - lone, While no light from  
wounds the life - blood drain, Thus ful - fill - ing



for your foes: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus!  
par - a - dise: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus!  
hu - man friend: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus!  
heav'n is shown: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus!  
Scrip - ture's plan: Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus!

6 Jesus, all our ransom paid,  
All your Father's will obeyed,  
By your suff'rings perfect made:  
Hear us, holy Jesus!

7 Jesus, all your labor vast,  
All your woe and conflict past,  
Yielding up your soul at last:  
Hear us, holy Jesus!

Text: Thomas B. Pollock, 1836-96, abr., alt.  
Tune: SEPTEM VERBA (777 6) Bernhard Schumacher, 1886-1978.

## FOURTH WORD:

## MATTHEW 27: 45 – 49

*From the sixth hour until the ninth hour, there was darkness over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "This fellow is calling for Elijah." Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. The rest said, "Leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."*

## HYMN:

#127

STRICKEN, SMITTEN, AND AFFLICTED

\*\*FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\*



1 Strick-en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, See him  
 2 Tell me, as you hear him groan - ing, Was there  
 3 If you think of sin but light - ly Nor sup -  
 4 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 his? 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.  
 own - ing, Foes in - sult - ing his dis - tress,  
 right - ly, Here its guilt may es - ti - mate.  
 va - tion, His the name of which we boast.



'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's  
 Man - y hands were raised to wound him, None would  
 Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed; See who  
 Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, Sac - ri -



Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I see suf - fi - cient  
 in - ter - vene to save, But the deep - est stroke that  
 bears the aw - ful load— 'Tis the Word, the Lord's A -  
 fice to can - cel guilt— None shall ev - er be con -



of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
 pierced him Was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.  
 noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 found - ed Who on him their hope have built.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855, alt.

Tune: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN (87 87 D) *Geistliche Volkslieder*, Paderborn, 1850.

**FIFTH WORD:****JOHN 19: 28, 29**

*After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine was sitting there. So they put a sponge soaked in sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.*

**HYMN:****OH, LOVE, HOW DEEP****#371****vs 1 – 4****\*\*FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\***

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
 2 He sent an - gel to our race,  
 3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore  
 4 For us he prayed, for us he taught;  
 5 For us, by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,  
 Of high - er or of low - er place,  
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;  
 For us his dai - ly works he wrought,  
 For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,



That God, the Son of God, should take  
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,  
 For us tempt - ta - tion sharp he knew,  
 By words and signs and ac - tions thus  
 He bore the shame - ful cross and death;



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 And to this world him - self he came.  
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 Still seek - ing not him - self but us.  
 For us he gave his dy - ing breath.

**SIXTH WORD:****JOHN 19: 30**

*When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished!" Then, bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.*



**HYMN:****#104****GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE****\*\*SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED LIGHTS DIMMED\*\***

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the  
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; View the Lord of  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see.  
 life ar - raigned. Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!  
 at his feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
 breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from his  
 Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained! Shun not suf-f'ring,  
 God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.  
 hear him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.  
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GETHSEMANE (77 77 77) Richard Redhead, 1820–1901.

**BIDDING PRAYER**

*A: Let us pray for the whole Church, that our gracious Father would defend her from the devil and keep her faithful to her Lord.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, you have revealed your saving name to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Protect us from the assaults of the evil one, and help us remain faithful to your Word so that in every adversity we may stand firm in our faith and give ourselves fully to our Savior's work, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for those who serve in the public ministry and for all people of God.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, you rule over all things for the good of your people. Preserve us from divisive spirits and false teachers. Give your servants the grace to proclaim Christ joyfully in word and deed so that all who hear them may come to know their Savior better and be strengthened for their lives of service, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for those who are being instructed in the Word, that they remain firm in the simple faith of Baptism.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, you make us your own dear children by the washing of rebirth and renewal in the Holy Spirit. Give strength to all who are buried with Christ in Baptism, that each day they may die to sin and rise again to live new and holy lives, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for our earthly government, our rulers, and all who are in authority.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, you have established earthly government to keep a measure of order in this dying world and to protect us from the disorder of sin. Give to all rulers the wisdom to govern well and to all citizens the desire to obey them, so that we may live peaceful lives in all godliness and holiness, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray that our gracious Father would protect us and our communities from the many earthly calamities that threaten us.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, on all sides we are surrounded by danger from wars and famine, from disease and pestilence, with the devil begrudging us every minute of our lives. Protect us from all these miseries so that your name may still be glorified in them and so that we may safely pass through them to your heavenly kingdom, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for those who are outside the Church, that they may come to know the one true God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, your Son was lifted up on the cross so that he might draw all people to himself. Through the proclamation of your Word, mercifully gather from the nations a people that are your very own, that we may join together around your throne in glory to praise and thank you forever, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for our enemies and for all those who hate us.*

***Silent prayer***

Almighty and everlasting God, no one can harm us without grieving you, whose name we bear. We ask that you would change the hearts of those who work against us and who hate us without

reason. Give them repentance and faith so that they may be glad with us and find joy in your love, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Let us pray for all who suffer under cross and trial.*

*Silent prayer*

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our griefs and to carry our sorrows. Help those who are suffering for your name's sake and who are struggling against temptation, that they may not be overwhelmed with sadness but find relief in your grace, through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*A: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask in the words he himself has taught us.*

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**SEVENTH WORD:**

**LUKE 23: 33 – 46**

*When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified him there with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." They cast lots to divide his garments among them. The people stood watching. The rulers were ridiculing him, saying, "He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, the Chosen One!" The soldiers also made fun of him. Coming up to him, they offered him sour wine, saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription written above him: "This is the King of the Jews."*

*One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise."*

*It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun was darkened. Then the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" When he had said this, he breathed his last.*

**\*\*CHRIST CANDLE LEAVES THE SANCTUARY\*\***



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law have you bro - ken  
2 They crown your head with thorns, they smite, they scourge you;  
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?  
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!  
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



That such sharp sen - tence should on you be spo - ken?  
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge you;  
It is my sins for which you, Lord, must lan - guish;  
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;  
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime have you to make con -  
They give you gall to drink, they still de -  
Yes, all the wrath, the woe that you in -  
The Mas - ter pays the debt his ser - vants  
We for - feit - ed our lives, yet are ac -



fes - sion— What dark trans - gres - sion?  
cry you; They cru - ci - fy you.  
her - it, This I do mer - it.  
owe him, Who would not know him.  
quit - ted— God is com - mit - ted.

***Closing of the tomb!***

***\*\*Christ Candle returns in anticipation for Easter's Hope\*\****

*Meditation and prayer. Please exit in quiet to not disturb others.*