

**Good Friday  
Tenebrae Service  
April 3, 2026**



**Take Up Your Cross  
And Follow Me**

*The congregation and pastor enter in silence.*

## 454 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

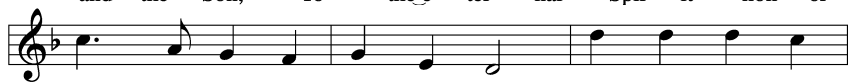
LSB 454



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; Sing the end - ing  
2 Tell how, when at length the full - ness Of the ap - point - ed  
3 Thus, with thir - ty years ac - com - plished, He went forth from  
4 Faith - ful cross, true sign of tri - umph, Be for all the  
△ 5 Un - to God be praise and glo - ry; To the Fa - ther



of the fray. Now a - bove the cross, the tro - phy,  
time was come, He, the Word, was born of wom - an,  
Naz - a - reth, Des - tined, ded - i - cat - ed, will - ing,  
no - blest tree; None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,  
and the Son, To the e - ter - nal Spir - it hon - or



Sound the loud tri - um - phant lay; Tell how Christ, the  
Left for us His Fa - ther's home, Blazed the path of  
Did His work, and met His death; Like a lamb He  
None in fruit thine e - qual be; Sym - bol of the  
Now and ev - er - more be done; Praise and glo - ry



world's re - deem - er, As a vic - tim won the day.  
true o - be - dience, Shone as light a - midst the gloom.  
hum - bly yield - ed On the cross His dy - ing breath.  
world's re - demp - tion, For the weight that hung on thee!  
in the high - est While the time - less a - ges run.

## The Litany

- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** hear us.
- L** God the Father in heaven,
- C** have mercy.
- L** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C** have mercy.
- L** God the Holy Spirit,
- C** have mercy.
- L** Be gracious to us.

**C Spare us, good Lord.**

**L** Be gracious to us.

**C Help us, good Lord.**

**L** From all sin, from all error, from all evil;  
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;  
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;  
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

**C Good Lord, deliver us.**

**L** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;  
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

**C Help us, good Lord.**

**L** In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

**C Help us, good Lord.**

**L** We poor sinners implore You

**C to hear us, O Lord.**

**L** To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;  
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;  
To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**L** To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

**C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**L** To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;  
To direct and defend our *[president/queen/king]* and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**L** To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**L** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**C** **we implore You to hear us.**

**L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy.**

**L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy.**

**L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **grant us Your peace.**

**L** O Christ,

**C** **hear us.**

**L** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy.**

**L** O Christ,

**C** **have mercy.**

**L** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy. Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Introit**

*Psalm 38:1-4, 18, 22; antiphon: Isaiah 53:5*

- L** He was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;
- C** upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.
- L** O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
- C** nor discipline me in your wrath!
- L** For your arrows have sunk into me,
- C** and your hand has come down on me.
- L** There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation;
- C** there is no health in my bones because of my sin.
- L** For my iniquities have gone over my head;
- C** like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.
- L** I confess my iniquity;
- C** I am sorry for my sin.
- L** Make haste to help me,
- C** O Lord, my salvation!
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- L** He was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;
- C** upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

*Sit*

**621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

*LSB 621*

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and  
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on  
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard

trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
 earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,  
 on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing

For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -  
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the  
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to

scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.  
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.  
 van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.

# First Reading

Revelation 5:1–10

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" <sup>3</sup>And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, <sup>4</sup>and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. <sup>5</sup>And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

<sup>6</sup>And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup>And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. <sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll  
 and to open its seals,  
 for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for  
 God  
 from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
<sup>10</sup>and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
 and they shall reign on the earth."

## 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB 436



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 - rained; 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 from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.  
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

*John 19:17–30*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the nineteenth chapter.  
**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>[Jesus] went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." <sup>20</sup>Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. <sup>21</sup>So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

<sup>23</sup>When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, <sup>24</sup>so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them,  
and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, <sup>25</sup>but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" <sup>27</sup>Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." <sup>29</sup>A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### 447 Jesus, in Your Dying Woes

LSB 447



19 Je - sus, all Your la - bor vast, All Your woe and  
 20 When the death shades round us low'r, Guard us from the  
 21 May Your life and death sup - ply Grace to live and



con - flict past, Yield - ing up Your soul at last:  
 tempt - er's pow'r, Keep us in that tri - al hour:  
 grace to die, Grace to reach the home on high:



Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.  
 Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.  
 Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.

### Sermon: Take Up Your Cross And Follow Me

### 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

LSB 451



1 Strick-en, smit-ten, and af - flict - ed, See Him dy - ing on the  
 2 Tell me, ye who hear Him groan - ing, Was there ev - er grief like  
 3 Ye who think of sin but light - ly Nor sup - pose the e - vil  
 4 Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, Here the ref - uge of the



tree! 'Tis the Christ, by man re - ject - ed; Yes, my  
 His? Friends through fear His cause dis - own - ing, Foes in -  
 great Here may view its na - ture right - ly, Here its  
 lost: Christ, the Rock of our sal - va - tion, Is the

soul, 'tis He, 'tis He! 'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed  
 sult - ing His dis - tress; Man - y hands were raised to  
 guilt may es - ti - mate. Mark the sac - ri - fice ap -  
 name of which we boast; Lamb of God, for sin - ners

Proph - et, Da - vid's Son, yet Da - vid's Lord; Proofs I  
 wound Him, None would in - ter - vene to save; But the  
 point - ed, See who bears the aw - ful load; 'Tis the  
 wound - ed, Sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt! None shall

see suf - fi - cient of it: 'Tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
 deep - est stroke that pierced Him Was the stroke that jus - tice gave.  
 Word, the Lord's a - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 ev - er be con - found - ed Who on Him their hope have built.

*Stand*

## Collect

**P** Let us pray.

Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** **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.**

*Sit*

*At the conclusion of the Closing Hymn, all leave the Church in silence.*

### 450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

LSB 450



1 O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
 2 How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn!  
 3 What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;  
 4 My Shep - herd, now re - ceive me; My Guard - ian, own me Thine.



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns, Thine on - ly crown.  
 How doth Thy face now lan - guish That once was bright as morn!  
 Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Great bless - ings Thou didst give me, O Source of gifts di - vine.



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss, till now was Thine!  
 Grim death, with cru - el rig - or, Hath robbed Thee of Thy life;  
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;  
 Thy lips have of - ten fed me With words of truth and love;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call Thee mine.  
 Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife.  
 Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace.  
 Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

- 5 What language shall I borrow  
 To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
 For this Thy dying sorrow,  
 Thy pity without end?  
 O make me Thine forever!  
 And should I fainting be,

Lord, let me never, never,  
Outlive my love for Thee.

- 6 My Savior, be Thou near me  
When death is at my door;  
Then let Thy presence cheer me,  
Forsake me nevermore!  
When soul and body languish,  
O leave me not alone,  
But take away mine anguish  
By virtue of Thine own!
- 7 Be Thou my consolation,  
My shield, when I must die;  
Remind me of Thy passion  
When my last hour draws nigh.  
Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,  
Upon Thy cross shall dwell,  
My heart by faith enfold Thee.  
Who dieth thus dies well.

## **Acknowledgments**

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