

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: ST. JOHN PASSION

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

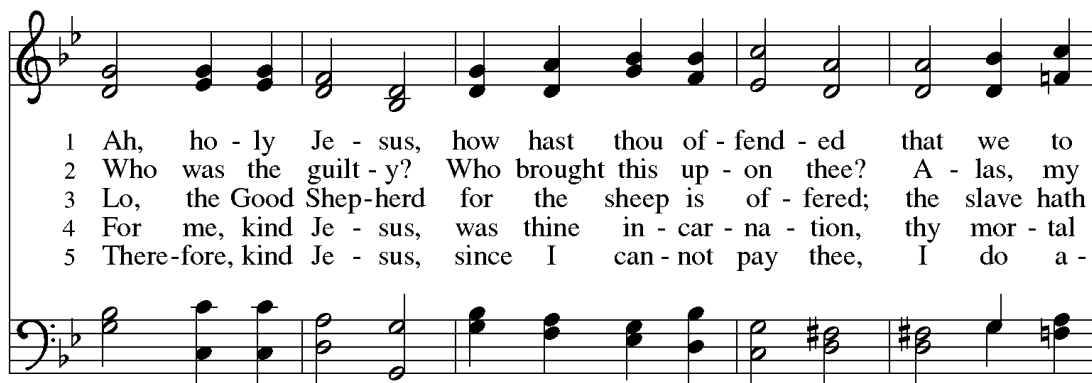
WELCOME

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

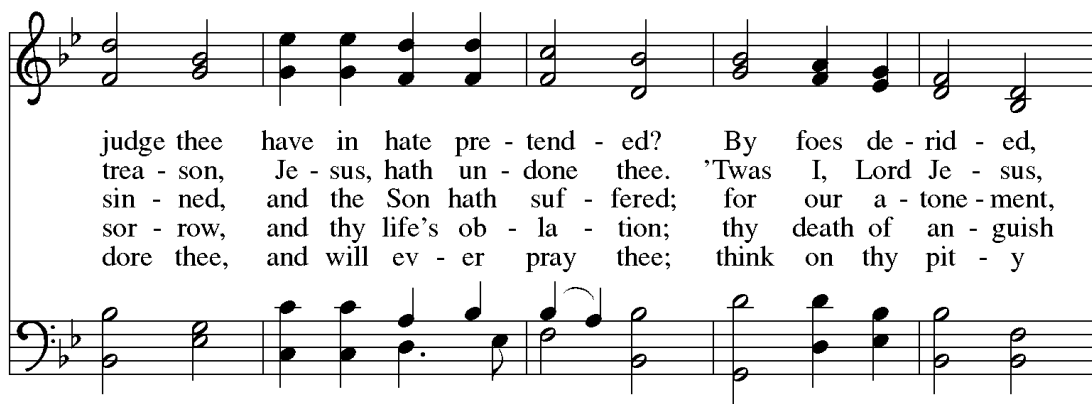
The assembly stands.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

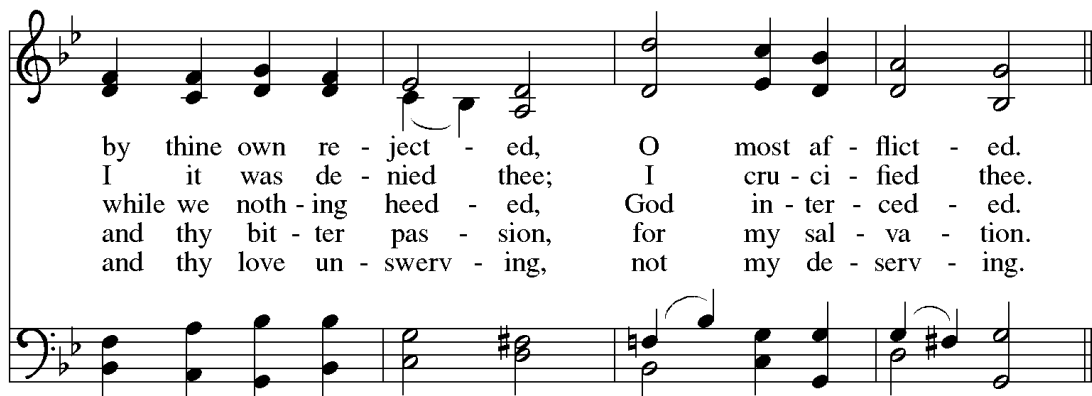
Gracious and eternal one, on this haunting holy day,
 we come to the place of the skull, the place of the cross, the place of our salvation.
 In the face of such suffering, show us the face of our Savior.
 In the shadow of such evil, show us the light of your grace.
 Through Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN ELW #349 *Ah, Holy Jesus (verse 3 high voices, verse 4 low voices)*


1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

The assembly is seated

Since the first centuries of the Christian church, the reading of Christ's Passion has been a central element of worship during Holy Week, especially on Good Friday. Tonight, we participate in that tradition by reading the Passion according to the Gospel of John, set to the music of J.S. Bach (1685-1750). Bach inserts arias and hymns into the biblical text, providing pauses in the story for reflection, meditation, and prayer. The music this evening is neither a dramatic reenactment of the Passion, nor is it a concert. Rather, it is a Gospel reading: an opportunity for us to gather in community to hear and participate in this central story of our faith. As we hear the Gospel this evening, you are invited to be a part of the story, to identify with the characters, arias, and hymns, and to reflect on the meaning of this story in our lives.

ST. JOHN PASSION

PART I

Chorus:

*Herr, unser Herrscher
dessen Ruhm in allen Landen herrlich ist!
Zeig uns durch deine Passion,
daß du, der wahre Gottessohn,
zu aller Zeit,
auch in der größten Niedrigkeit,
verherrlicht worden bist!*

Lord, our ruler,
whose name is marvelous in every nation!
Through Your Passion show us
that You, the true Son of God,
throughout the ages,
have been glorified,
even in the worst degradation!

John 18:1-8:

Jesus went with his disciples over the brook Kedron, where was a garden, to which came Jesus and his disciples. Judas also, who would betray him, knew the place quite well, for Jesus would often visit there to be with his disciples. Judas, therefore, who had gathered a body of men, whom the Chief Priests and the Pharisees had sent him, now they came forth with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Therefore, Jesus knowing all things that were to come upon him, he then went out and said unto them, "Whom seek you here?" And they answered to him, "*Jesum von Nazareth* (Jesus of Nazareth)." Jesus said unto them, "I am he." Judas also, who would betray him, stood there beside them. Now when Jesus to them had said: I am he, all of them went backward and fell to the ground. Then asked he of them a second time, "Whom seek you here?" Again they answered, "*Jesum von Nazareth* (Jesus of Nazareth)." Jesus answered and said, "I told you I am the one you seek. If that is the case, then let these others go."

Chorale

Tremendous love, unmeasured vast affection, the martyr's path is paved with such perfection.
I've had my pleasures thoughtless of tomorrow, and yours the sorrow!

John 18:9 – 11

So that the words would be fulfilled, that he had spoken: of those who you gave to me, not one have I lost, not one. Then Simon Peter, having a sword, he drew it forth, and struck at the High Priest's serving man, and cut the man's right ear off; and his name was Malchus. Then said Jesus to Peter, "Put back your sword into its scabbard! Shall I not drink from the cup my Father has given me?"

Chorale

Your will be done, Lord God, below, on earth as high in heaven above.
May we hold fast in times of woe, restrain the body chaste love.
Control of flesh and blood instill that would offend your holy will.

John 18:12-14

The body of soldiers with their captain, and the servants of the Jews took hold of Jesus and bound him fast, and led him away at first unto Annas, who was Caiphas father-in-law, who that same year was the high priest. Now it had been Caiphas, who had told the Jews, that it was good that one man should now die, for all the people.

Aria (Alto)

*Von den Stricken meiner Sünden
mich zu entbinden,
wird mein Heil gebunden.
Mich von allen Lasterbeulen
völlig zu heilen,
läßt er sich verwunden.*

From the cords of my sins
to release me,
my Savior is placed in bonds.
To heal me of all
the stains of sin,
He submits to grievous wounds.

John 18:15a

Simon Peter also followed Jesus forth, with another disciple.

Aria (Soprano)

*Ich folge dir gleichfalls
mit freudigen Schritten
und lasse dich nicht,
mein Leben, mein Licht.
Befördre den Lauf
und höre nicht auf,
selbst an mir zu ziehen,
zu schieben, zu bitten!*

I follow you too
with joyful steps
and do not leave Your side,
my life, my light.
Speed me on my course
and never cease
to spur me on,
guide and implore me!

John 18:15b-23

That other disciple to the High Priest long had been known and went with Jesus within, to the palace of the High Priest. But Peter stood outside at the door. And then that other disciple, who was known to them in the palace, went out and spoke unto her that tended the door and brought Peter also within. Then said the maid, that tended the door, to Peter, "Are you not also one of his disciples?" He said, "I am not." The officers and the servants who stood there had made them a fire out of coals, for it was cold, and warmed themselves. Peter also stood among them and warmed himself.

Then did the High Priest ask and question Jesus of his disciples and of his teaching. Jesus then answered to him, "I have been open speaking freely to the world at large. I have always taught in public places, synagogues, and in the temple, where all the Jewish people congregate. I have said nothing covert or secret. Why ask me concerning this? Inquire of those who have heard; ask them what I said. They know what I have spoken to them." And when Jesus thus had spoken an officer who stood near to Jesus struck him with the palm of his hand and said, "And is that then how you dare to answer the High Priest?" Jesus answered then unto him, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify that it indeed is wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why have you stricken me?"

Chorale

Who was so cruel to beat you, to so unjustly treat you, so wickedly malign?
You have no crimes committed, my Savior stands acquitted, unlike our race, all humankind.
I and my rank transgressions, my sins and indiscretions, unnumbered as the sand.
Those, and my faithless treason, have caused you to be beaten, such painful torture to withstand.

John 12:24-27 and Matthew 26:75

Now Annas sent him bound to the other high priest Caiphas. Simon Peter stood and warmed himself, they said then unto him, "Are you not one of his disciples?" But Peter denied it and said: "I am not." And then one of the High Priest's servants, being kin to him, whose ear Peter cut off that night then said, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Then did Peter deny a third time, and immediately did the cock crow. Then did Peter bring to mind the word of Jesus and he went out and wept bitterly.

Aria (Tenor)

*Ach, mein Sinn,
wo willst du endlich hin,
wo soll ich mich erquickten?
Bleib ich hier,
oder wünsch ich mir
Berg und Hügel auf den Rücken?
Bei der Welt ist gar kein Rat,
und im Herzen
stehn die Schmerzen
meiner Missetat,
weil der Knecht den Herrn verleugnet hat.*

Alas, my conscience,
whence will you ultimately flee,
where shall I be refreshed?
Should I stay here,
or would I prefer
mountains and hills at my back?
The world offers no counsel,
and in my heart
remains the pain
of my wrongdoing,
because the servant has denied the Lord.

Chorale

Peter, who had not thought back, til he heard the cock crow,
understood his faithless act, bitterly his tears flowed!
Jesus, turn to look at me, when I've been as awful.
When my sins I've failed to see, mend me with your gospel.

Brief Intermission

ORGAN *I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ*

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, music by J.S. Bach

PART II

Chorale

Christ, who knew no sin or wrong like a thief was taken,
in the dark before the dawn by his friends forsaken.
He who our salvation won, falsely was convicted,
scoffed at, scorned and spat upon, as the word predicted.

John 18:28 – 36

And then they led forth Jesus, from Caiphas to the judgement hall, and it was early. And they went not into the judgement hall, lest there they should be made unclean, but that they might eat the Passover. Then unto them Pontius Pilate went out and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” And they answered and said unto him, “If this man were not a malefactor, we had not brought him here before you.” Pilate said unto them, “So take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.” The people then said unto him, “By death we may not punish.” So that might be fulfilled the word of Jesus, which he had spoken and had signified by what manner of death he should die.

Then Pilate entered into the Hall and again he called in Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus then answered him, “Did you ask this on your own, or did others tell you these things concerning me?” And Pilate thus answered him, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation, your Chief Priests have brought you, handed you over to me. So what have you done?” And Jesus answered him, “My kingdom is not of this world; for were my kingdom of this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews; but, no, my Kingdom is not from here.”

Chorale

Most mighty sovereign, great, eternal, graceful: how might my praise convey how you are faithful?
No human heart can quite begin to think through how to repay you.

What do my reason, gifts of speech avail me? When I would sing your pity, words all fail me.
For all your love how might I find a way to in works repay you?

John 18:37 – 19:1

Then Pilate said to him, “So are you truly a King?” Jesus answered to him, “You say that I am a King, for this it was I was born, and came into the world, that I testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” Then said Pilate to him, “What is truth?”

And when he thus had spoken, he went out once again to the people, and said unto them, “I find no case against him. At Passover you have a custom, that I release someone for you. Do you want that I should release the King of the Jews?” Then cried they together all again and shouted,
“Not this man, no not him. Not this one, give us Barabbas.” Barabbas now he was, a robber.
Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

Arioso (Bass)

<i>Betrachte, meine Seel, mit ängstlichem Vergnügen,</i>	My soul, behold with anxious pleasure,
<i>mit bitterer Lust und halb beklemmtem Herzen</i>	with bitter desire, heart half-seized with fear,
<i>dein höchstes Gut in Jesu Schmerzen,</i>	your greatest good in the sufferings of Jesus,
<i>wie dir auf Dornen, so ihn stechen,</i>	how, from the thorns piercing Him,
<i>Die Himmelsschlüsselblumen blühn!</i>	flowers that open Heaven's gate bloom for you!
<i>Du kannst viel süße Frucht von seiner Wermut</i>	You can pluck sweet fruit from His wormwood;
<i>brechen, drum sieh ohn Unterlaß auf ihn!</i>	so always fix your gaze on Him!

OFFERING *The ushers will receive the offering during this aria. Suggested donation is \$25 to help defray the costs of presenting the St. John Passion.*

Aria (Tenor)

Behold Him!

See His body, bruised and bleeding,
is interceding for us in Heaven above.
But when, our flood of sin declining,
and toward His saving grace inclining,
We find, at last, the rainbow shining,
then God will welcome us with love.

John 19:2 – 12

The soldiers platted then for him a crown out of thorns and put it upon his head and put on him a purple robe and said, “King of Jews we hail thee!” And then with their hands they struck him. Again came Pilate forth from the Hall and said to them, “See here, I am bringing him out to you, to let you know that I find no case against him.” And then did Jesus come forth still wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And he said unto them, “Behold, the man!”

Now therefore when the priests and officers saw him, cried they out saying, “*Kreuzige kreuzige!* (Crucify, Crucify!)” The Pilate said to them, “Take him, you take him and crucify him, for I find no case against him.” The people then answered and said, “We have with us a law, and by this our law he should perish, for he made himself to be the Son of God.”

Now when Pilate heard what they had said, he was the more afraid and went up once again to the Judgment Hall and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave to him no answer. Then Pilate said unto him, “Do you refuse to speak? Do you not know I have power to crucify, and power to release you?” Jesus then answered him, “You would not have power over me, unless it had been given to you from above. Therefore, he who gave me to you is guilty of a greater sin.” And from that moment Pilate sought how he might release him.

Chorale

Through this your prison, Son of God comes freedom for the weary.
Your dungeon is the throne of grace for us a sanctuary.
Didst you not choose a slave to be, we all were slaves eternally.

John 19:12 – 17

But the people cried and shouted to Pilate, “If thou let this man go, then art thou not Caesar’s friend; for whoever maketh himself a king, is foe unto Caesar.” Then when Pilate hear them saying this, straightway did he bring Jesus forth and sat in the Seat of Judgement, in a place, that is called the High Pavement, but in Hebrew it is Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the Passover and about the sixth hour, and he said to the people, “See him, behold your King!” But they cried out, “*Weg, weg mit dem, kreuzige ihn!* (Away, away with him, crucify him!)” Pilate said unto them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The Chief Priests answered and said to him, “We have no king but Caesar!” And then he delivered him to them, that they might crucify him.

So therefore they took Jesus and led him away. And he bore his cross, and went forth to a place that is called the Place of Skulls, which is called in the Hebrew: Golgotha.

Aria (Bass)

*Eilt, ihr angefochtenen Seelen,
geht aus euren Marterhöhlen,
eilt (wohin?) nach Golgatha!
Nehmet an des Glaubens Flügel,
flieht (wohin?) zum Kreuzeshügel,
eure Wohlfahrt blüht allda!*

Hurry, you troubled souls,
step from your caves of torment,
hurry (where?) to Golgotha!
Fly on wings of faith,
fly (where?) to the Hill of the Cross,
there your salvation blooms!

John 19:18 – 22

And they crucified him there, and with him two other, one on either side, Jesus in the midst between them. And Pontius Pilate wrote them an epigraph and put it upon the Cross. On it was written, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” And this epigraph many were reading, for not far from the city was the place, where Jesus was crucified. And these words were written both in Hebrew, Latin, likewise also in Greek.

Then said the Chief Priests of the Jews until Pilate, “Write him not as our King: do not so write him, rather that he himself has said this: I am their King and Master.” But Pilate then answered, “The words that I have written, so be it, I have written.”

Chorale

Within my heart’s recesses your name and cross alone.
My heart always rejoices your gleaming ever shown.
When dreaded death is near me with all its dark distress,
your cross, dear Lord, will cheer me and ease its bitterness.

John 19:23 – 27

And then did the soldiers, after they had crucified Jesus, portion out his garments in four equal portions, and for each of the soldiers there was a part, and also his coat. Now the coat had no seam and was woven from end to end, on piece it was throughout. They said therefore one to the other, “Let us there not divide it, but by lot determine who shall have it.” So that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which is written, “They portioned out my raiment equally among them and for my vesture they cast lots, yea they cast lots.” These things therefore were done by the soldiers.

Now standing beside the cross of Jesus was his mother and the sister of his mother, and Mary, Cleophas’ wife, also Mary Magdalena. When then Jesus saw his mother near him, and the disciple standing by her, whom he loved, he said unto his mother, “Look, woman, here is your son!” Then he said to this disciple, “Behold, here, here is your mother!”

Chorale

In that final hour did he think then of his mother,
That when he was gone she’d be cared for by this other.
Make your peace with God and man that upon the morrow,
You may end this mortal span, free from care and sorrow.

John 12:27b – 30

And from that hour, he took her to his home. And now since Jesus knew full well that all was accomplished, as was written in the Scripture, he said, “I thirst!” Now there was a vessel of vinegar. They filled from the vessel then a sponge with vinegar and put it on a twig of hyssop and put it to his mouth to drink. Therefore Jesus, when he had received the vinegar, he said, “It is fulfilled!”

Aria (Alto)

*Es ist vollbracht!
O Trost vor die geängsteten Seelen!
Die Trauernacht
läßt nun die letzte Stunde zählen.
Der Held aus Juda siegt mit Macht
und schließt den Kampf.
Es ist vollbracht!*

It is finished!
O comfort for the afflicted souls!
The night of sorrow
now measures out its last hour.
The hero of Judah triumphs with his mighty power
and concludes the battle.
It is finished!

John 19:30

And bowing his head he gave up his spirit.

Aria with Chorale (Bass)

*Mein teurer Heiland, laß dich fragen,
da du nun mehr ans Kreuz geschlagen
und selbst gesagt: Es ist vollbracht,
bin ich vom Sterben frei gemacht?
Kann ich durch deine Pein und Sterben
das Himmelreich ererben?
Ist aller Welt Erlösung da?
Du kannst vor Schmerzen zwar nichts sagen;
doch neigst du das Haupt
und sprichst stillschweigend: ja.*

My precious Savior, let me ask You,
now that you have been nailed to the Cross
and have said yourself: "It is finished,"
Am I freed from death?
Can I, through your suffering and death,
inherit the kingdom of heaven?
is the whole world redeemed?
Though unbearable pain keeps You from speaking,
yet you bow Your head down
and say silently: Yes.

Jesus, you who once were dead livest now forever.
When the path of death I tread Lord, forsake me never.
From my sins you set me free saved me from disaster,
my redemption earned for me my beloved master.

Matthew 27:51

And then behold, the veil of the temple was rent in two, e'en from the top unto the bottom. And the firmament rocked and quaked, and the rocks burst asunder, and the graves were opened up, and then arose many bodies of the Holy ones.

Arioso (Tenor)

My heart, see all the world is plunged in woe because of Jesus' anguish.
The sun itself by grief is shrouded, the veil is rent, the rocks are bust,
creation quake, the graves are opened when their Redeemer they see lifeless,
and as for you, what will you do?

Aria (Soprano)

With tears overflowing, your homage bestowing the Master exalt ye!
Through Heaven and earth let the tidings be spread: Thy Jesus is dead!

John 19:31 – 37

The chief priests therefore, since it was the preparation, in order that the bodies not remain on the cross for the Sabbath (for a High Day that Sabbath was with the Jews), made a plea that Pilate allow their legs to be broken, that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers and broke the legs of the first one and the other, which was crucified with him. But when they had come to Jesus, seeing clearly, that he was already dead, therefore they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers then pierced his side with a spear, and forthwith came there blood and water out. And he who has seen these things, of them has borne record, and his record is true, nor indeed can he fail to know of what he speaks, that you believe him. For all these things were done that the scriptures might be fulfilled: "A bone of him shall not be broken." Again in the Scriptures another has said: "And they shall look, shall look on him who they have pierced."

Chorale

Jesus! Help us, God's own son, to refrain from sinning.
All the pain you've undergone, our redemption winning;
So your agony and death ever hand before us.
We with weak and halting breath, sing our thankful chorus.

John 19:38-42

Then came unto Pilate Joseph of Arimathea, a disciple, too, was he (but secretly, for fear of the Jews), and besought leave to take away Jesus' body. And for this Pilate did give him leave. Therefore he came thither and carried Jesus' body away. There came also forth, Nicodemus, he who at first had come to Jesus in the night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and of aloes, together a hundred pounds. And so they took the body of Jesus, and wound it in the linen clothes, with the myrrh and aloes in the manner of the Jews to bury. Now there was in the place where he was crucified a garden, in the garden a new grave, wherein as yet man never had been laid. Therein then they laid Jesus, for the preparation day of the Jesus, for this new grave was close at hand.

Chorus

*Ruht wohl, ihr heiligen Gebeine,
 die ich nun weiter nicht beweine,
 ruht wohl und bringt auch mich zur Ruh!
 Das Grab, so euch bestimmt ist
 und ferner keine Not umschließt,
 macht mir den Himmel auf
 und schließt die Hölle zu.*

Rest well, you blessed limbs,
 that I will now no longer mourn,
 rest well and give me also peace!
 The grave made ready for you,
 that holds no further suffering,
 opens heaven for me
 and closes the gates of Hell.

Chorale

Ah, Lord, when comes that final day may angels bear my soul away
 to Abram's bosom take it;
 Let then my body's anguish cease, my soul to wait the day in peace,
 When you again awake it.
 Ah, what a joy it then will be the very Son of God to see,
 to gaze upon his holy face, my Savior on the throne of grace!
 Lord Jesus Christ, oh hear thou me, oh hear thou me,
 Your name I praise eternally!

The assembly stands

SILENT VEILING OF THE CROSS

Please depart in silence.

CONDUCTOR: Michael Fuchs
 EVANGELIST: David Greenberg
 JESUS: Calland Metts
 PILATE: Riley Hinnencamp
 PETER: Seth Gudmunsen
 SERVANT: Brad Anderson
 MAID: Aine Miller

SOLOISTS: Brad Anderson, Emilie Bowman, Riley Hinnencamp, Calland Metts, Rebecca Farmer,
 Seth Gudmunsen, Jen Fuchs, David Greenberg, Aidan Jones, Aine Miller

ORCHESTRA

Kristin Sande, Marc Haroo, Amy Eichers, violin I
 Laurie Bastian, Jean Leibfried, violin II
 Kevin Hoeschen, Ron Kari, viola
 Betsy Husby, Byron Klimek, cello
 Tim Churchill, bass
 Melanie Sever, Sondra Mowers, flute
 Brett Linski, Madeline Miller, oboe
 Kerry Van Dusen, bassoon
 Thomas Hamilton, harpsichord
 Karen Sande, organ

CHOIR

Brad Anderson	Cindy Kaeter
Dick Anderson	Kris Karsell
Yvonne Anderson	Andy Frey
Elizabeth Austin-Minor	Aidan Jones
Glen Backman	Payton Kittaka
Linda Backman	Mark Knutson
Dianna Bell	Barb LaMaster
Emilie Bowman	David LaMaster
Steve Broderius	Josh Larson
John Church	Candy Madich
Mary Dontje	Aine Miller
Karen Earley	Gunnar Molstad
Rebecca Farmer	Dennis Paulson
Jen Fuchs	Suzanne Rauvola
Tracey Gibbens	John Simmons
Kalina Groothuis	John Sippola
Seth Gudmunsen	Sandy Skrien
David Haavik	LoAnn Stone
David Helf	Beth Storaasli
Mary Helf	Kerry Van Dusen
Riley Hinnenkamp	Dana Varland
Beth Holst	Kay Wohlhuter
Tim Holst	Shirley Wuchter
Brad Kaeter	

Ministers	All People of First Lutheran Church
Pastor	The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
Program Staff	Karen Sande, Director of Music Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
Audio/Video Team	Shania Krause, Sam Weston

Thank you to the First Lutheran Church Foundation, whose generous support made this presentation of Johann Sebastian Bach's St. John Passion in its 300th anniversary year possible.

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

Easter Services

March 30: Easter Vigil 7:00 p.m. service

March 31: Easter Sunday 8:30 a.m. traditional service
and 11:00 a.m. contemporary service

