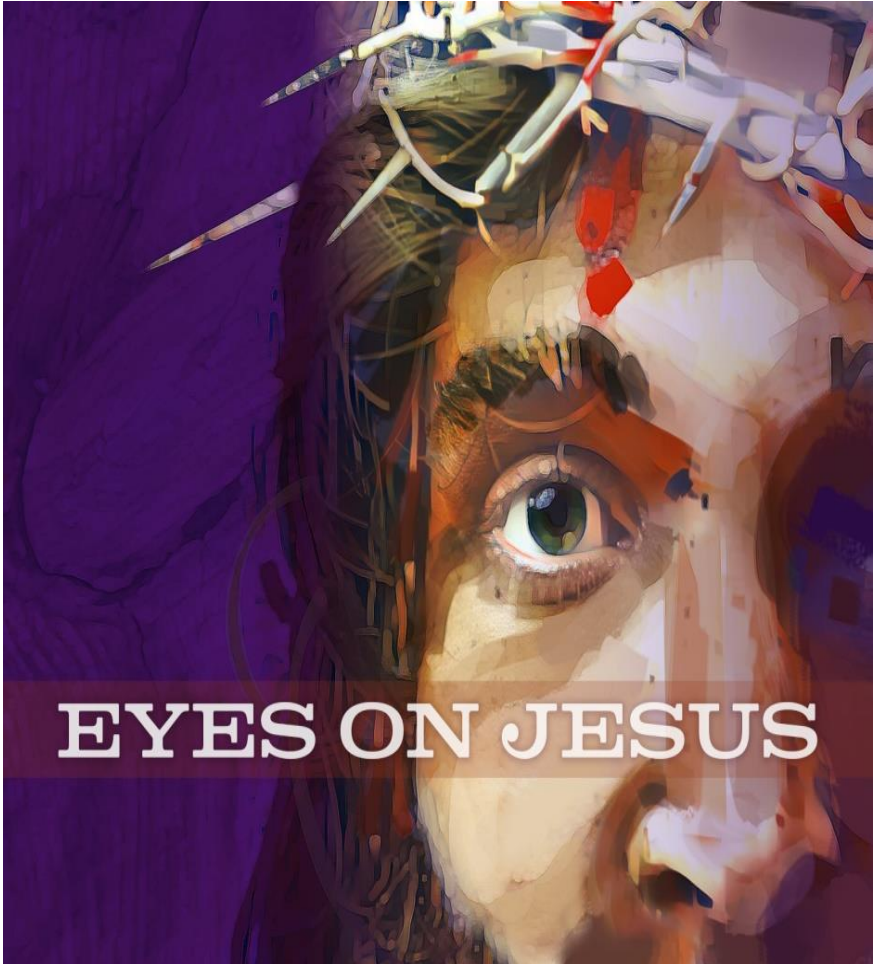
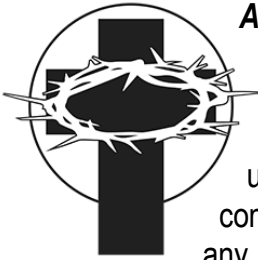


# **Good Friday**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 – 10 am**



*Grace Lutheran Church*  
*24542 Melbourne Rd*  
*Strathroy-Caradoc, ON N7G 3H5*



**AS WE GATHER:** The focus of our worship today is squarely on the cross of Christ whereupon He suffered the agony of death as full payment for the sins of the world. Spend most of this time with eyes upward, looking at the cross, symbol of Christ's most compelling sacrifice. The solemnity of this day precludes any pre-service music. The bare altar remind us of the

sorrow we feel that the sinless Son of God had to die for sinners like us. While we do not gather the offering during this service, we do encourage you to leave your gifts in the offering plate located at the back of the church.

*[After the service, worshippers are asked to leave the sanctuary quietly.]*

**PRAYER:**

P: Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN:** "Were You There" [LSB 456 v. 1, 2, 3]



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  
4 Were you there when God raised Him from 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 ...  
there when God raised Him from 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.  
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: We have to look up to see Jesus on the cross, where we see the full measure of God's love. But our heavenly Father looks down to where His Son gives Himself as the ultimate sacrifice, the Son looks down on us with full forgiveness, and the Spirit opens our eyes to the salvation won for us. With such awful payment made on our behalf, let us freely go to our loving God, confessing our sins.

*Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.*

Gracious heavenly Father,

**C: we would rather cover our sins from You, our neighbors, and ourselves, but nothing is hidden from Your eyes. Exposed in our sinful condition and unable to save ourselves, we plead for Your mercy and forgiveness. Our thoughts, words, and deeds are stained with sin but because we are confident that Your Son's blood washes them clean, we dare to ask that Your Holy Spirit lift our eyes to the cross, our hearts to Your will, and our minds to a new determination to serve You with all the strength You provide.**

P: Although creation itself mourned to see the Lord of life on the cross, the sun darkened, and tombs rent open, on the third day, the rising sun would reveal that almighty God had accepted payment for all our sins—that eternal life is open to us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**SERMON:** God's Eyes – Mark 15:37

### ***BIDDING THE PRAYER***

P: Let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would defend her against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary and keep her perpetually on the true foundation, Jesus Christ:

Almighty and everlasting God, since You have revealed Your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and in the Word of His truth, keep, we ask You, in safety the works of Your mercy so that Your Church, spread throughout all the nations, may be defended against the adversary and may serve You in true faith and persevere in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God:

P: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for all believers, that our Lord God would open their

hearts and the door of His mercy that, having received the remission of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may be mindful of their Baptism and evermore be found in Christ Jesus, our Lord:

P: Almighty God and Father, because You always grant growth to Your Church, increase the faith and understanding of all believers that, rejoicing in their new birth by the water of Holy Baptism, they may forever continue in the family of those whom You adopt as Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

P: O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially Justin Trudeau, our Prime Minister; the Parliament of Canada; Doug Ford, our Premier; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:

P: Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

P: Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word and walk before Him as is fitting for Christians:

P: Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy and graciously grant them such things as are both needful for them and profitable for their salvation:

P: O almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You have commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. We therefore earnestly implore You that by Your gracious visitation all our enemies may be led to true repentance and may have the same love and be of one accord and one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Christian Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

A: Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down

His blessing upon them and graciously dispose our hearts to enjoy them according to His own good will:

P: O Lord, Father Almighty, by Your Word You created and You continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray You so to reveal to us Your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by Your grace be made ready to receive Your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

**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.**

**HYMN:** "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" [LSB 440 v.1, 2, 5, 6]



1	Je - sus,	I	will	pon - der	now	On	Your	ho - ly	pas - sion;	
2	Make	me	see	Your	great	An -	guish,	and	af - flic - tion,	
3	Yet,	O	Lord,	not	thus	Make	me	see	Your	pas - sion,
4	Grant	that	I	Your	pas - sion	view	With	re - pen - tant	griev - ing.	



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.  
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;  
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.  
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm  
And my conscience grieve me,  
Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
Peace of conscience give me.  
Help me see forgiveness won  
By Your holy passion.  
If for me He slays His Son,  
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
Help me bear my crosses,  
Learning humbleness from You,  
Peace mid pain and losses.  
May I give You love for love!  
Hear me, O my Savior,



That I may in heav'n above  
Sing Your praise forever.

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## 1. LOVE'S FORGIVENESS

P: Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:21-22).

P: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals—one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them: they do not know what they are doing" (Lk 23:32-34).

(The first candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

HYMN:            On My Heart Imprint Your Image            [LSB 422]



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be:    Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

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## 2. LOVE'S REWARD

P: (Jesus said,) "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left. Then the King will say to those on His right: 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me' " (Matthew 25:31-34, 40).

P: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Jesus: "Aren't You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other criminal rebuked him, "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise" (Luke 23:39-43).

(The second candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

**HYMN:** "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" [LSB 451 v. 1, 2]



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.

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### 3. LOVES'S CONCERN

P: While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, His mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to Him. Someone told Him, "Your

mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to You." He replied to him, "Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?" Pointing to His disciples, He said, "Here are My mother and My brothers. For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother" (Matt.12:46-50).

P: Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home (John 19:25-27).

(The third candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

*HYMN:* "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" [LSB 451 v. 3, 4]

#### **4. LOVE'S PRESENCE**

P: Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:16-20).

P: At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"-- which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?" (Mark 15:33-34).

(The fourth candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

HYMN: "O Perfect Life of Love" [LSB 452 v. 1, 2, 3]



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,  
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;  
3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;  
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul  
5 In per - fect love He dies; For me He dies, for me.



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.  
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.  
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.  
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.  
O all - a - ton - ing Sac - ri - fice, I cling by faith to Thee.

6 In ev'ry time of need,  
Before the judgment throne,  
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,  
Thy merits, not mine own.

7 Yet work, O Lord, in me  
As Thou for me hast wrought;  
And let my love the answer be  
To grace Thy love has brought.

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## 5. LOVE'S NEED

P: On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.

Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within Him" (John 7:37-38).

P: Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips (John 19:28-29).

(The fifth candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

*HYMN:* "O Perfect Life of Love" [LSB 452 v. 4, 5]

## **6. LOVE'S COMPLETION**

P: Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what He was talking about. (Lk 18:31-34).

P: When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished!" (John 19:30a).

(The sixth candle is extinguished. We pause for a moment of silent reflection on God's word, then we sing:)

*HYMN:* "O Perfect Life of Love" [LSB 452 v. 6, 7]

## **7. LOVE'S INVITATION**

P: At the time Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and

burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:25a, 28-30).

P: It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He said this, He breathed His last (Luke 23:44-46).

*The Christ Candle is removed.*

**Psalm** *Psalm 22:19–31*

P: <sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far off!  
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!  
<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my precious life from the power of the dog!  
<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!  
<sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,  
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and he has not hidden his face from him,  
but has heard, when he cried to him.  
<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.  
<sup>26</sup>The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!

May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before you.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep himself alive.

<sup>30</sup>Posterity shall serve him;  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;

<sup>31</sup>they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a  
people yet unborn,  
that he has done it.

## **Streptitus**

*A loud sound is heard, signifying the closing of God's book. The Christ candle is returned in recognition that God is eternally alive.*

## **COLLECT**

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. Amen.

*Please observe silence while departing.*

Join us at 10 am on Easter Sunday to rejoice in the miracle of life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.