

centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. ⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

* Benediction & Dismissal

L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**



Our Lenten theme this year was “Witnesses.” Each of our round-robin speakers focused on a different group of witnesses to the passion of Jesus Christ. Our round-robin series concludes with this Good Friday service.

The Witness of the Criminals

Not recorded – Maurice Bueber

The Witnesses of Jesus’ Arrest

Online at FAHope.org – Travis Fink

The Witnesses of Jesus’ Trial

Online at FAHope.org – Pastor Barry Nelson

The Witness of the Apostles

Online at FAHope.org – Del Neumeister

The Witness of the Soldiers

Online at FAHope.org – Pastor Kevin Czymbor

Maundy Thursday

Online at FAHope.org – Pastor Barry Nelson

The Witness of the Religious Leaders

Hope: March 29 (Good Friday) – Rod Goldammer

Lenten Offerings:

First American – All Nations Family Center on the Rosebud Reservation. This is the ministry served by Johnny and Heidi Wade. Heidi is the daughter of Jan Jerke.

Hope – Southeastern South Dakota Lutherans for Life ultrasound fund which supports the ultrasound ministry of the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls.

Hope Lutheran Church

Good Friday Service

March 29, 2024

Please stand as you are able* **Bold Items are read in unison

Invocation & Call to Worship

Psalm 37:28-40

²⁸ For the LORD loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones.

Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed; the offspring of the wicked will perish.

²⁹ **The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.**

³⁰ The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak what is just.

³¹ **The law of their God is in their hearts; their feet do not slip.**

³² The wicked lie in wait for the righteous, intent on putting them to death;

³³ **but the LORD will not leave them in the power of the wicked or let them be condemned when brought to trial.**

³⁴ Hope in the LORD and keep his way. He will exalt you to inherit the land; when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.

³⁵ **I have seen a wicked and ruthless man**

flourishing like a luxuriant native tree,

³⁶ but he soon passed away and was no more;

though I looked for him, he could not be found.

³⁷ **Consider the blameless, observe the upright; a future awaits those who seek peace.**

³⁸ But all sinners will be destroyed; there will be no future for the wicked.

³⁹ **The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.

First Lenten Reading

Mark 15:33-41

³³ At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

³⁵ When some of those standing near heard this, they said, “Listen, he’s calling Elijah.” ³⁶ Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to take him down,” he said. ³⁷ With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last. ³⁸ The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!” ⁴⁰ Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome. ⁴¹ In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

* Opening Hymn – *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended* Red #69

Confession of Sin: Merciful God and Heavenly Father, whose grace endures to all generations, You are patient and longsuffering and have promised to forgive the sins of those who truly repent. We have sinned against You and are unworthy of Your goodness and love. Look with compassion upon us, and hear our cries for mercy. Forgive us of all our sins, and help us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling we have received. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Grace & Prayers of the Church

Old Testament Lesson Deuteronomy 16:18-20

¹⁸ Appoint judges and officials for each of your tribes in every town the LORD your God is giving you, and they shall judge the people fairly. ¹⁹ Do not pervert justice or show partiality. Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the innocent. ²⁰ Follow justice and justice alone, so that you may live and possess the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Epistle Lesson Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* Confession of Faith Augsburg Confession, Article IV on Justification

It is taught among us that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works, or satisfactions, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace, for Christ’s sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for his sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us. For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness. Amen.

* Offertory: **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Hymn – *Hallelujah, What a Savior!* Red #84

* Gospel Lesson Mark 14:53-65

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. ⁵⁴ Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. ⁵⁶ Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. ⁵⁷ Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸ “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹ Yet even then their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” ⁶¹ But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” ⁶² “I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³ The high priest tore his clothes. “Why do we need any more witnesses?” he asked. ⁶⁴ “You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?” They all condemned him as worthy of death. ⁶⁵ Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy!” And the guards took him and beat him.

Sermon – *Justice?* Rod Goldammer

* Closing Hymn – *The Old Rugged Cross* Red #78

* 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.**

* Final Lenten Reading Mark 15:42-47

⁴² It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. ⁴⁴ Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the