



# *The Seven Last Days*

*A Tenebrae Service*

*featuring the St. John Choir*

St. John Lutheran Church

Good Friday

March 29, 2024



[www.stjohnwilliston.org](http://www.stjohnwilliston.org)

419-836-5514

**Good Friday**

**The Seven Last Days**

**March 29, 2024**

What was begun on Maundy Thursday continues today as we journey with our Savior from the Last Supper to the betrayal and arrest, the stripping and humiliation, and ultimately to the cross and tomb.

Good Friday worship is marked with austerity, silence and reflection.

The chancel itself is bare; the altar has been stripped.

Everything focuses on our adoration of the crucified Christ,  
reigning from the throne of the cross

(Please stand to face the cross at the back of the sanctuary  
as we begin our worship)

P: Behold the cross, on which hung the savior of the world

**C: Come, let us worship.**

P: It is a dark day to be gathered here, Jesus. The foot of the cross is a barren place, filled with shadows and death.

**C: But we are here because we need to be here; the shadows of this day are our shadows, the death is our death.**

P: Now as we worship, your cross becomes for us a mirror, reflecting back to us on our own brokenness, sinfulness, and darkness.

**C: And as we reflect on your love-inspired sacrifice, we discover a pathway to life.**

P: We gather at the foot of your cross, because we desperately need to be there.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hymn #803

## **WORDS OF CONFESSION**

P: It seems impossible that anyone would give what you did to save men and women like us; But, you gave yourself freely for our sakes.

It seems unimaginable that anyone could love the way you did, including outcasts, rebels, and even your persecutors, and refusing to strike back; But, you loved so much that you laid down your life for our sakes.

It seems inconceivable that anyone would offer the forgiveness that you did even as nails pierced your flesh, and the cross was stained with your blood; But, you did not hold our sin against us, and took on yourself the suffering that should have been ours.

**C: Forgive us that we have allowed greed and violence, pride and deceit, bitterness and coldness, to have a place in our hearts; And fill us again with Your immeasurable grace, Your inexhaustible love, and Your unconquerable life, That we may be changed, and may express our love and devotion to you through our lives of worship and service. Amen.**

P: Christ of the cross, see our need of your grace, hear our prayer for your mercy, and come to us again, to help and restore, because we cannot heal ourselves.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All: 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**

## **Choir Cantata**

## **The Seven Last Days**

### **Day One: Palm Sunday-Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem**

Song: Open the Gates of Jerusalem

Song: Blessed Are They

### **Day Two: Monday— Jesus clears the temple**

Song: A House of Prayer

### **Day Three: Tuesday-Jesus in the temple**

Song: I Surrender All

### **Day Four: Wednesday-Judas agrees to betray Jesus**

Song: On the Night He was Betrayed

### **Day Five: Maundy Thursday-The Last Supper**

Song: Think of Me and Remember

### **Day Six: Good Friday-Jesus crucifixion and death**

Song: Why Have You Forsaken Me?

### **Day Seven: Saturday— Joseph placed Jesus body in the tomb**

Song: Were You There?

Please stay and pray for as long as you wish.

All depart in silence without benediction.

Christ's death is not God's final word.  
Our worship continues with the Celebration of the Resurrection  
at 5:00 PM on Saturday and at 9:45 on Sunday morning.