



## Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Cleveland, MN

Good Friday  
April 03, 2026

*We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.*



### **Revealed through Nonviolence**

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 22:47-53; Luke 23:33-38, 44-46

11"x14" Gouache & colored pencils on paper

**The Good News is...** *revealed through nonviolence!*

*We enter in silence to mark the continuation of the Triduum, the three-day celebration of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ*

## Candle Lighting

In the beginning, darkness covered the face of the deep. Then God said,  
**“Let there be light.”**

And there was light. And every day since, the light has come and gone.

**The sun has risen and set.**

The moon has waxed and waned.

**The light is still with us.**

In the beginning was the Word, which brought all things into being. What has come into being through him is life,

**the light of all people.**

The light shined in the darkness,

**and the darkness did not overtake it.**

When God made the light, when the light of all people came into the world, God did not send away the dark.

**The darkness remains.**

God created the night for dreams and clarity,

**an exhaling of the light.**

Let us enter this holy darkness to bear witness to the light of the world who was extinguished by violence.

**Let us worship our Incarnate God.**

## First Reading: Arrest

*Luke 22:47-53*

## Visio Divina

Take a moment to let your eyes move about the image. What stands out to you? Where are your eyes immediately drawn? What pieces of the image did you initially overlook?

Look at the people in this image. What stories and emotions do you imagine for them? If you were to place yourself in this image, where would you be? How would you interact with what surrounds you?

## Hymn

“Go To Dark Gethsemane”

Red #347

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter’s pow’r  
your Redeemer’s conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his griefs away;; learns from Jesus Christ to pray.

2. Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;  
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suff’ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

3. Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; there adoring at his feet,  
mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.

“It is finished!” hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

4. Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay;  
all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away?  
Christ is ris’n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

## Second Reading: Sentencing

Luke 23:13-25

### Call to Confession

In his book *What Will You Do with King Jesus?* James A. Harnish writes, “Is it possible that our world still knows better how to deal with a bandit, a murderer, and insurrectionist than it knows what to do with the Prince of Peace? ... Is it possible that we would rather deal with raw power that rides on a stallion than with this one who comes on a donkey, with the weapons of love, patience, suffering, and peace? Given the choice, isn’t it possible that we would take Barabbas, too?”

The passion narrative invites us to place ourselves in the story, to examine our own complicity in cycles of violence. And the good news is, we don’t have to do this alone. The God who made us knows our hearts, knows our flaws, and knows all our best intentions. We don’t have to hide. There’s no need to save face. Let us simply turn to God in prayer with our whole hearts.

### Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we can easily see ourselves in any number of the people surrounding Jesus in his final days. We are Judas, betraying what we hold most dear for status, wealth, and security. We are the soldiers, using our power to maintain the status quo which serves us. We are the disciples, brandishing our weapons to fight violence with violence, and we are the high priest’s servant, victims of a world hell-bent on winning. Prince of Peace, forgive us.**

Refrain: “In Silence We Wait”

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the refrain. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you  
come to us; bring us your light.

**Holy God, we are Herod, finding our entertainment at the expense of other people's dignity. We are Pilate, excusing ourselves from the blame that is rightfully ours. We are the crowd, foaming at the mouth and demanding blood, and we are Barabbas, our lives spared while others are crucified. Prince of Peace, forgive us.**

Refrain: "In Silence We Wait"

**Holy God, forgive us for the part we have played. Set us free from the sin that chokes the world, threatening to extinguish all that is good. Break the cycles of violence, step into the machinery of a world fueled by division and disrupt us. Forgive us, Prince of Peace.**

Refrain: "In Silence We Wait"

Beloved, the impossibly good news is that we are forgiven. No matter what we have or haven't done, our God is always waiting with open arms to receive us. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **Third Reading: Crucifixion**

*Luke 23:33-38*

### **Reflecting on the Cross**

#### **Hymn**

"Were You There"

Red #353

1. Where you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2. Where you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Where you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Where you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

4. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

## Fourth Reading: Death

Luke 23:44-46

## Final Meditation

## Extinguishing the Light

## Adoration of the Cross

Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

## 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.**

## Sending

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

*(repeat 3 times)*

*The congregation leaves in silence,  
to reassemble on Easter Sunday.*

*8:15 am Easter Breakfast*

*8:30 am Easter Egg Hunt*

*9:00 am Festival Worship with Holy Communion*

Acknowledgements: \*What Will You Do with King Jesus? Pictures of the Kingdom of God in Matthew, by James A. Harnish, (The Upper Room, 1986). Elements of worship from Sundays & Seasons, copyright 2026, Augsburg Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14189-LIT and CCLI license #3117279. Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | <https://sanctifiedart.org/>. "Tell Me Something Good" © 2026 Sanctified Art, LLC. All rights reserved