

March 29, 2024  
Good Friday, Year B  
6:30 p.m.

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*St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA*

Reverend Maggie Westaby  
5304 N 44<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401  
Web Address: [stjohnwausau.org](http://stjohnwausau.org)  
E-mail: [pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.maggie.westaby@gmail.com)  
Email: [stjohnwausau@msn.com](mailto:stjohnwausau@msn.com)

Office: (715) 675-6950

## **STILL\***

This day  
let all stand still  
in silence, in sorrow.

Sun and moon  
be still.

Earth  
be still.

Still  
the waters.

Still  
the wind.

Let the ground  
gape in stunned  
lamentation.

Let it weep  
as it receives  
what it thinks  
it will not  
give up.

Let it groan  
as it gathers  
the One  
who was thought  
forever stilled.

Time  
be still.

Watch  
and wait.

Still.

*Silence for reflection*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Jesus, Keep me near the Cross (Bell Choir)*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal Savior,

On this day you entered once for all into death. On this day you stand in solidarity with us, for our pain is your pain. From this day forward, may we know that there is nowhere we can go that you are not with us. We commend our spirits into your hands, trusting in the transforming power of your Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## JOHN 18:1--19:42

*This reading is broken up with hymns in between.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.<sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" <sup>5</sup>They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup>Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

<sup>12</sup>So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup>First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

## HYMN

*Go To Dark Gethsemane, Verse 1 Only (ELW 347)*

### Go to Dark Gethsemane

The image shows the musical score for the hymn 'Go to Dark Gethsemane'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;

your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The woman said to Peter, “You are not also one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” <sup>18</sup>Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered, “I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered, “If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?” <sup>24</sup>Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, “You are not also one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” <sup>26</sup>One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” <sup>27</sup>Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

## HYMN

*Go To Dark Gethsemane, Verse 2 Only (ELW 347)*

### Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;

your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
 oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.  
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

<sup>28</sup>Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate’s headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went out to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” <sup>30</sup>They answered, “If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.” <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.” The Jews replied, “We are not permitted to put anyone to death.” <sup>32</sup>(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

<sup>33</sup>Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup>Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” <sup>40</sup>They shouted in reply, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a bandit.

## HYMN

### *Go To Dark Gethsemane, Verse 3 Only (ELW 347)*

#### Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt-er's pow'r;  
 2 Fol-low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar-raigned;  
 3 Cal-v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at his feet,  
 4 Ear-ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath-less clay;

your Re-deem-er's con-flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
 oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin-ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

<sup>19:1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!” <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

<sup>8</sup>Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>Pilate therefore said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?” <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.” <sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.”

<sup>13</sup>When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge’s bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, “Here is your King!” <sup>15</sup>They cried out, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but the emperor.” <sup>16</sup>Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

**HYMN**

*Go To Dark Gethsemane, Verse 4 Only (ELW 347)*

Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;

your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
 oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.  
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?

turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
 Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

So they took Jesus; <sup>17</sup>and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” <sup>20</sup>Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. <sup>21</sup>Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’ ” <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” <sup>23</sup>When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. <sup>24</sup>So they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.” This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

“They divided my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.”

<sup>25</sup>And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

<sup>28</sup>After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” <sup>29</sup>A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## **HYMN**

*Were You There, Verse 1 Only (ELW 353)*

# Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

*Refrain*

Oh, 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?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual  
Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. <sup>32</sup>Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. <sup>35</sup>(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) <sup>36</sup>These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” <sup>37</sup>And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

<sup>38</sup>After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. <sup>39</sup>Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. <sup>40</sup>They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup>Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. <sup>42</sup>And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

## **HYMN**

*Were You There, Verse 2-5 (ELW 353)*

# Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

*Refrain*

Oh, 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?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual  
 Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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**SERMON**

On a Hill Far Away  
The Old Rugged Cross

1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,  
2 Oh, that old rug-ged cross so de - spised by the world,  
3 In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
4 To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true,

the em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;  
has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;  
a won - drous beau - ty I see;  
its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,  
for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,

for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
to . . . bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.  
to . . . par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

*Refrain*  
So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my

tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug-ged

cross, and ex - change it some day for a crown.

Text: George Bennard, 1873-1958  
Music: THE OLD RUGGED CROSS. George Bennard, 1873-1958

**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.**

**PSALM 22**

*(you are invited to listen and mediate on this psalm)*

*It is finished*

*Depart in silence*



*If you would like to leave an offering tonight, the offering plate will be in the narthex.*

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**Welcome to all!** From the cross, Jesus gave Mary and John into each other's care. He gives us, too, into each other's care. Welcome to Good Friday worship.

Thank you, Jesus, for bearing the infirmities and transgressions of the whole world, that we may be healed (see Isaiah 53:4-5).

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

**To those who are visiting:** Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

**Reminder!** If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John (715) 675-6950

**Holy Communion** is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

**Food Basket.** Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Shopping Cart* next to the main entrance. **Reminder, food pantries cannot accept expired donations.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sign-up sheet for Easter Breakfast is in the Narthex.** We are in need of volunteers to bring fruit, desserts, and to help clean and set up. Your time, talent, and dedication are appreciated to make Easter Breakfast a success!

**Synod Assembly registration is now open.** See Pastor Maggie to for details.

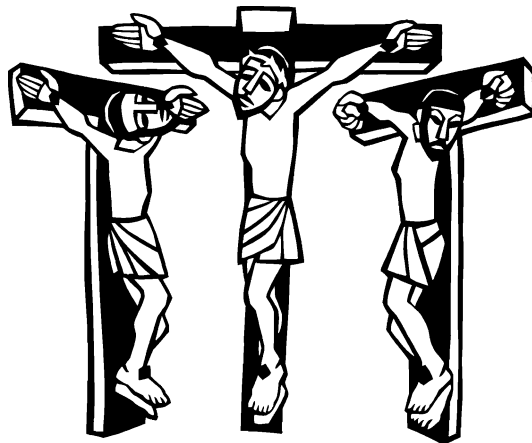
**Maine Elementary is in need of black and grey sweatpants and leggings.** Size 5-6, 6x, and 7-8. They are also in need of boys' and girls' undies in those sizes.

**St. John Quilting Wishlist.** Left over fabric or never used fabric, light weight denim, cotton or flannel sheets, pillow cases, cotton curtains (unlined), cotton shower curtains. If you are interested, come join us! You can also sew a quilt top from home. Size needed is 60 x 80. They do not need to be fancy. Thank you!

**Men's Breakfast.** Pastor Will from Trinity in Stettin and St. Peter's in Marathon has invited all men from St. John to meet the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. At LC Restaurant, in Marathon (Formerly the Village Inn).

**Monday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m.** We will discuss, *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese.

**Live Streaming and Photography Notice.** When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.



**Holy Week @ St. John March 29 – March 31**

**March 29**

6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship Service

**March 31**

8:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Easter Worship Service