# Seven Words of Christ from the Cross

# Tre Ore Meditations

April 18th 2025

+ Meditation 1 + 12:00

Preacher: Rev. Bill Geis Missouri District, LCMS Music: Jeff White Historic Trinity

### Welcome

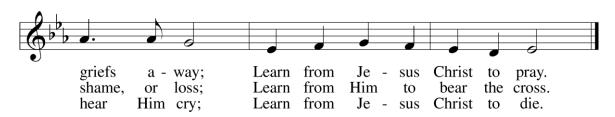
Please Stand

### Invocation

# Hymn ~ Go to Dark Gethsemane (vv. 1-3)

LSB 436





Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854 Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

### Psalm 121

**Pastor:** I lift up my eyes to the hills.

**People:** Where does my help come from?

**Pastor:** My help comes from the Lord.

People: The Maker of heaven and earth.

**Pastor:** He will not let your foot slip.

**People:** He who watches over you will not slumber;

Pastor: Indeed, He who watches over Israel People: Will neither slumber nor sleep.

**Pastor:** The Lord watches over you

**People:** The Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**Pastor:** The sun will not harm you by day,

**People:** Nor the moon by night.

**Pastor:** The Lord will keep you from all harm

**People:** He will watch over your life;

**Pastor:** The Lord will watch over your coming and going

**People:** Both now and forevermore.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading John 19:7-12

The Jewish leaders insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God." When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jewish leaders kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar."

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### Message

# **Closing Prayer**

## **Blessing**

### Interlude

### + Meditation 2 +

12:20

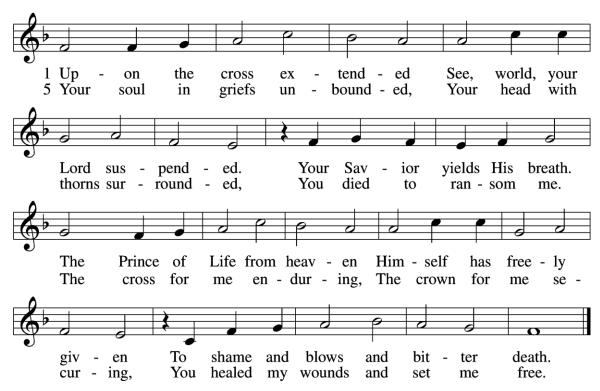
"Father, forgive them..."

Preacher: Rev. Miguel Torneire Hispanic Church Planter Music: Jeff White Historic Trinity

# Prayer

# Hymn ~ Upon the Cross Extended (vv. 1 & 5)

LSB 453



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.

Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517

Text and tune: Public domain

# Psalm 32:1-7

**Pastor:** I lift up my eyes to the hills.

**People:** Where does my help come from?

**Pastor:** Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven.

**People:** Whose sins are covered.

**Pastor:** Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count again him

**People:** And in whose spirit is no deceit.

**Pastor:** When I kept silent, my bones wasted away

People: Through my groaning all day long.

Pastor: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
People: My strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

**Pastor:** Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

People: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" -- and you forgave

the guilt of my sin.

**Pastor:** Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found;

People: Surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

**Pastor:** You are my hiding place; You will protect me from trouble

People: And surround me with songs of deliverance.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading Luke 23:32-38

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, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up His clothes by casting lots. The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him. They said, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also came up and mocked Him. They offered Him wine vinegar and said, "If You are the king of the Jews, save Yourself." There was a written notice above Him, which read: *This is the King of the Jews*.

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Message

Father, forgive them...

Prayer

**Blessing** 

Interlude

### + Meditation 3 +

12:40

"You will be with me in Paradise"

Preacher: Rev. Paul Gaschler Holy Cross Music:Jeff White Historic Trinity

> Jim Gill Messiah

## Prayer

### Hymn ~ O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (vv. 1-3)

LSB 449



Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153;

German version, Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612

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Tune: Public domain

### Psalm 16

**Pastor:** Keep me safe, O God,

People: For in You I take refuge.

**Pastor:** I said to the Lord, "You are my Lord;

People: Apart from You I have no good thing."

**Pastor:** As for the saints who are in the land,

People: They are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight.

**Pastor:** The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods.

People: I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names

on my lips.

**Pastor:** Lord, You have assigned me my portion and my cup;

**People:** You have made my lot secure.

**Pastor:** The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

People: Surely I have a delightful inheritance.

Pastor: I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; People: Even at night my heart instructs me.

**Pastor:** I have set the Lord always before me.

People: Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

**Pastor:** Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

People: My body also will rest secure,

Pastor: Because You will not abandon me to the grave,
People: Nor will You let Your Holy One see decay.

**Pastor:** You have made known to me the path of life;

People: You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at

your right hand.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him: "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."

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

You will be with me in Paradise...

Message

Prayer

**Blessing** 

Interlude

### + Meditation 4 +

1:00 "Behold, your mother"

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Stanish Stanley Christian Friends of New Americans Music: Jeff White Historic Trinity

# Prayer

# **Hymn** ~ Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted (vv. 1-2)

LSB 451



### Psalm 77:1-12

**Pastor:** I cried out to God for help;

People: I cried out to God to hear me.

**Pastor:** When I was in distress, I sought the Lord;

People: At night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to

be comforted.

**Pastor:** I remembered you, O God, and I groaned;

People: I mused, and my spirit grew faint.

**Pastor:** You kept my eyes from closing; **People:** I was too troubled to speak.

**Pastor:** I thought about the former days,

People: The years of long ago;

**Pastor:** I remembered my songs in the night.

People: My heart mused and my spirit inquired:

**Pastor:** "Will the Lord reject us forever?

People: Will the he never show his favor again?

**Pastor:** Has his unfailing love vanished forever?

**People:** Has his promise failed for all time?

**Pastor:** Has God forgotten to be merciful?

People: Has God in anger withheld his compassion?"

**Pastor:** Then I thought, "To this I will appeal:

People: The years of the right hand of the Most High."

**Pastor:** I will remember the deeds of the Lord;

People: Yes, I will remember Your miracles of long ago.

**Pastor:** I will meditate on all Your works;

People: And consider all Your mighty deeds.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading Luke 19:23-27

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, "They divided My garments among them and cast lost for My clothing." So this is what the soldiers did. Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciples 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.

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Message Behold, your mother...

Prayer

**Blessing** 

Interlude



### + Meditation 5 +

1:20

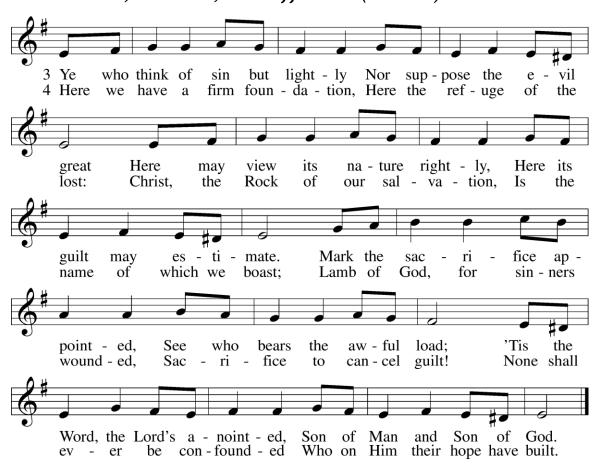
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Preacher: Rev. Steve Albers Historic Trinity Music: Jeff White Historic Trinity Nicole Heerlein Historic Trinity

# Prayer

# **Hymn** ~ Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted (vv. 3-4)

LSB 451



### Psalm 22:1-11

**Pastor:** My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?

People: Why are You so far from saving me, so far from the words of

my groaning?

**Pastor:** O my God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer.

People: By night, and am not silent.

**Pastor:** In You our fathers put their trust;

People: They trusted and You delivered them.

**Pastor:** They cried to You and were saved;

**People:** In You they trusted and were not disappointed.

**Pastor:** But I am a worm and not a man,

People: Scorned by men and despised by the people.

**Pastor:** All who see me mock me;

**People:** They hurl insults, shaking their heads:

**Pastor:** "He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him.

People: Let Him deliver him, since He delights in him."

**Pastor:** From birth I was cast upon You;

People: From my mother's womb You have been my God.

**Pastor:** Do not be far from me,

People: For trouble is near and there is no one to help.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading Matthew 27:45-49

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About 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?" When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "he's calling Elijah." Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. But the rest said, "Leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Solo** ~ Agnus Dei

Georges Bizet

Message My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Prayer

**Blessing** 

Interlude

### + Meditation 6 +

1:40 "I thirst"

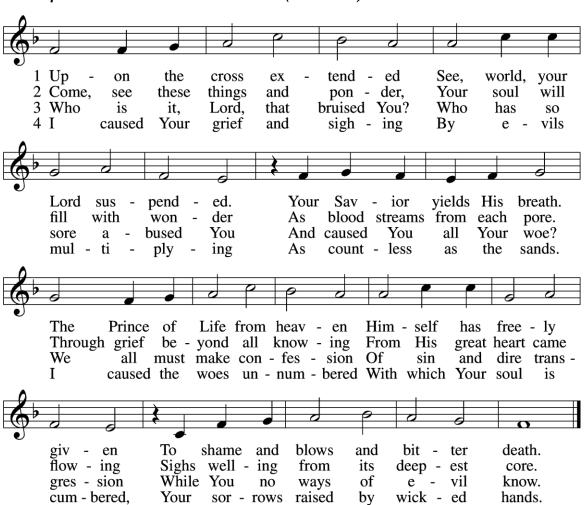
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Matt Clark Ascension Music: Gabe Maichel Ascension

Mike Arrigo Ascension

# Prayer

# Hymn ~ Upon the Cross Extended (vv. 1-4)

LSB 453



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517
Text and tune: Public domain

## Psalm 42:1-5, 8-11

**Pastor:** As the deer pants for streams of water,

People: So my soul pants for You, O God.

**Pastor:** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

People: When can I go and meet with God?

**Pastor:** My tears have been my food day and night,

People: While men say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

**Pastor:** These things I remember as I pour out my soul:

People: How I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house

of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng.

**Pastor:** Why are you downcast, O my soul?

**People:** Why so disturbed within me?

**Pastor:** Put your hope in God,

People: For I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.

**Pastor:** By day the Lord directs His love,

People: At night His song is with me -- a prayer to the God of my life.

**Pastor:** I say to God my Rock, "Why have You forgotten me?

People: Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?"

Pastor: My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, People: Saying to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

**Pastor:** Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?

People: Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading John 19:28-29

<sup>28</sup> After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." <sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Solo ~ What Wondrous Love is This

LSB 543

Message I Thirst

# **Prayer**

# **Blessing**

### Interlude

### + Meditation 7 +

2:00 "It is finished"

Preacher: Rev. Tim Staffeld Epiphany

Music: Mark Dunajcik Epiphany

### **Prayer**

# **Hymn** ~ Upon the Cross Extended (vv. 5-7)

LSB 453



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517
Text and tune: Public domain

### Psalm 130

**Pastor:** Out of the depths

People: I cry to You, O Lord;

**Pastor:** O Lord, hear my voice.

People: Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

**Pastor:** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

People: O Lord, who could stand?

**Pastor:** But with You there is forgiveness;

People: therefore You are feared.

**Pastor:** I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, **People:** and in His Word I put my hope.

**Pastor:** My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,

People: more than watchmen wait for the morning.

**Pastor:** O Israel, put your hope in the Lord,

People: for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption.

**Pastor:** He Himself will redeem Israel

**People:** from all their sins.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading John 19:30

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Message It is finished

**Prayer** 

**Interlude** ~ Adagio for String, by Samuel Barber

### + Meditation 8 +

2:20 "Into your hands"

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Joshua Hatcher

Historic Trinity

Music: Jeff White Historic Trinity Ncole Heerlein Historic Trinity

# Prayer

# **Hymn** ~ My Song is Love Unknown (vv. 1-3)

LSB 430



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

Text: Public domain

Tune: © John Ireland Trust. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003521

# Psalm 31:1-5, 23-24

**Pastor:** In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in

your righteousness.

People: Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a

strong fortress to save me.

**Pastor:** Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and

guide me.

People: Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

**Pastor:** Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

People: Love the Lord, all his faithful people!

**Pastor:** The Lord preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays

back in full.

People: Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading Luke 23:44-47

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 had said this, he breathed his last. The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man."

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

Solo ~ In Paradisum

Gabriel Faure

Message

Into your hands I commit my spirit...

Prayer

**Blessing** 

Interlude

### + Meditation 9 +

2:40 Closing

Preacher: Rev. Bill Wilson Music: Suzanne Manelli St. Johns St. Johns

### **Prayer**

# Hymn ~ My Song is Love Unknown (vv. 4-7)

LSB 430



Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

Text: Public domain

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### Psalm 22:9-31

**Pastor:** But you, O Lord, be not far off;

People: O my strength, come quickly to help me.

**Pastor:** Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs.

People: Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the

wild oxen.

**Pastor:** I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you.

People: You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor

him! Revere the Lord, all you descendants of Israel.

**Pastor:** For he has not despised or distained the suffering of the afflicted one;

People: He had not hidden his face from him, but has listened to his cry for help.

**Pastor:** From you comes my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you

will I fulfill my vows.

People: The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the Lord will praise

him; may your hearts live forever.

**Pastor:** All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord,

People: And all the families of the nations will bow down before him.

**Pastor:** For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

People: All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the

dust will kneel before him; those who cannot keep themselves alive.

**Pastor:** Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.

People: They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn; for his has

accomplished it.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

# Reading Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in ever respect has been tempted as we are, yet with out sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Pastor:** This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

### Message

# **Prayer**

# **Blessing**

As the cross leads the officiants from the sanctuary, the worshippers are requested to follow quietly and reverently during the tolling of the bells.

An offering will be received as worshippers come and go from the sanctuary. Gifts not designated to a particular church via an envelope will be given to Humanitri.



### **About Humanitri**

Humanitri was formed in 2006 through a merger of three highly esteemed social service agencies - Lutheran Ministries Association (LMA), Friend of Moms and Good Samaritan Service Center for the Homeless. Humanitri was chosen as the name for this newly formed agency as it is symbolic of three becoming one in service to our neighbors in need. This merger brought together 130+ years of social ministry response work within the St. Louis community.

Today Humanitri is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides services in the Lutheran tradition. We work to bring TRANSFORMATION to the families we serve through housing, moderately intensive case management and skill development. We believe that every individual created and loved by God deserves to be treated with dignity and given the opportunity for a new start. We are committed to helping our families get the best new start possible.

Please give generously to the mission.

You are invited to join the members and friends of the host congregations for worship on this holy weekend:

### **ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Tonight:	Tenebrae	6:30 p.m.
Sunday:	Outdoor Sunrise Service	6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Divine Service 8:30 a.m.
Divine Service 10:00 a.m.

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tonight:	Good Friday Worship	6:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Easter Worship with Holy Communion	9:30 a.m.
	Easter Potluck	11:00 a.m.

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Tonight:	Tenebrae Service	7:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Easter Breakfast	8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
	Easter Worship with Holy Communion	10:00 a.m.

### ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tonight:	Tenebrae Service	6:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Festival Worship with Holy Communion	9:00 a.m.

### TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tonight:	Tenebrae Worship with Holy Communion	7:00 p.m.
Saturday:	Easter Vigil with Holy Communion	7:30 p.m.
Sunday:	Sunrise Service with Holy Communion	7:00 a.m.
	Easter Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
	Festival Worship with Holy Communion	10:45 a.m.

### HISTORIC TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tonight:	Tenebrae Worship with Holy Communion	6:30 p.m.
Saturday:	Easter Vigil with Holy Communion	5:00 p.m.
Sunday:	Festival Worship with Holy Communion	8:15 a.m.
-	Easter Egg Hunt	9:30 a.m.
	Festival Worship with Holy Communion	10:15 a.m.
	Easter Egg Hunt	11:30 a.m.