



Good
Friday

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
and participants from the
Archbold Area Ministerial Association

April 7, 2023 - 7:30 pm

Welcome to St. Martin's Lutheran Church and a special welcome to those from area community churches representing the Archbold Area Ministerial Association, specifically Archbold United Methodist, Central Mennonite, and West Clinton Mennonite.

Why do we worship on Good Friday? Good Friday emerged historically as preparation for Easter. Historians believe that before Friday became a commemoration of the death of Christ, it was a simple day of fasting and preparation for Easter. Fasting before Easter was not an invention of Christians. Many early Christians would have known or practiced the Jewish tradition of a day-long fast in preparation for the celebration of Passover that our Jewish brothers and sisters still participate in. Over the centuries this day began to have significance as a day of worship to remember Jesus' death by crucifixion.

The setting for our worship tonight is a bare chancel. At the conclusion of our worship last evening, Maundy Thursday, all adornments to the sanctuary and the altar were removed, preparing us for tonight's worship. Through the ritual of this stripping of the altar, we recall that Jesus was abandoned by his followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone. No benediction was given last evening nor will one be given tonight because these Holy Week services are one continuous worship service.

We departed worship last evening in silence and we begin tonight's worship in silence.

As you prepare for worship tonight, you are encouraged to read and meditate on Psalm 22 which can be found on the back of this bulletin. The psalm shifts from themes of abandonment, even persecution, to promise and hope. These themes are evident throughout our worship tonight because we do not focus on our personal grief at the death of Jesus, but we focus on the glory of the cross and its message of salvation.

The basis of our worship tonight is the Passion story as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew.

**+ HELP US CREATE A SACRED SPACE TONIGHT +
To facilitate a worshipful atmosphere, please turn off all cell phones and
electronic devices for the duration of the worship service.**

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the Congregation

PRELUDE

"Darkest Hour"

arr. by J. Raney

For worship preparation, you are invited to reflect on Psalm 22 on page 20

WELCOME – Steve Basselman

Please stand

HYMN

"What Wondrous Love is This?"



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself.

Let us now pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation...

The Leader ends each petition:

God of our salvation...

The congregation responds:

Hear our prayer

The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

in whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

Congregation is seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING + Isaiah 53:1-6

¹Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by others, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Tonight's offering will be given to the local FISH Food Pantry

We sing the following hymn during the offering:

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov-'reign die?
2 Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut its glo - ries in
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face while his dear cross ap - pears,
5 But tears of grief can - not re - pay the debt of love I owe;

Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!
when God, the might - y mak - er, died for his own crea - tures' sin.
dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness, and melt my eyes to tears.
here, Lord, I give my - self a - way: 'tis all that I can do.

Darkness of Betrayal and Desertion

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 26:47-56

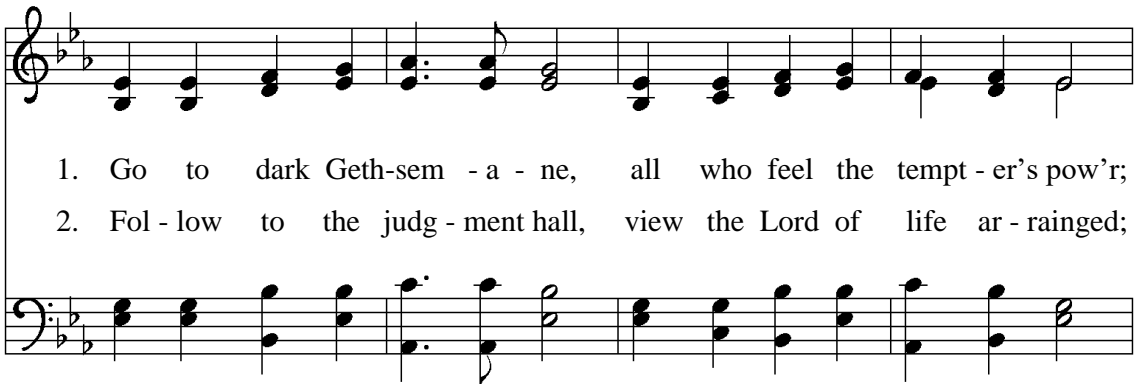
⁴⁷In the garden, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” ⁴⁹Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. ⁵⁰Jesus replied, “Friend, do what you came for.”

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁵¹With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

⁵²“Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. ⁵³Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?” ⁵⁵At that time Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. ⁵⁶But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

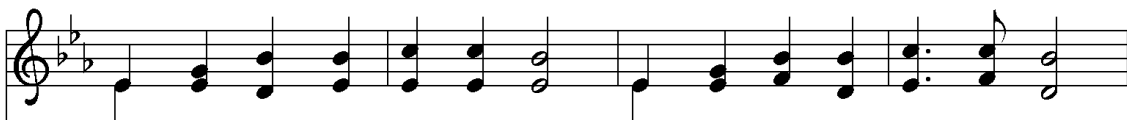
HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”



The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

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;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pains his soul sus - tained!



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.



PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, our Lord Jesus Christ knows the schemes and evil plans of human hearts. Yet, he does not hesitate to drink the cup of suffering you have given to him. Guide your church that, even in persecution and testing, we may put away the sword, take up our cross, follow the ways of peace, and embrace our mission to serve.

Amen

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

First Candle extinguished

Darkness of Denial

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 26:57-75

⁵⁷Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. ⁵⁸But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome. ⁵⁹The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹and declared, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’”

⁶²Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” ⁶³But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.”

⁶⁴“Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶What do you think?” “He is worthy of death,” they answered.

⁶⁷Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?”

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. “You also were with Jesus of Galilee,” she said.

⁷⁰But he denied it before them all. “I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he said.

⁷¹Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

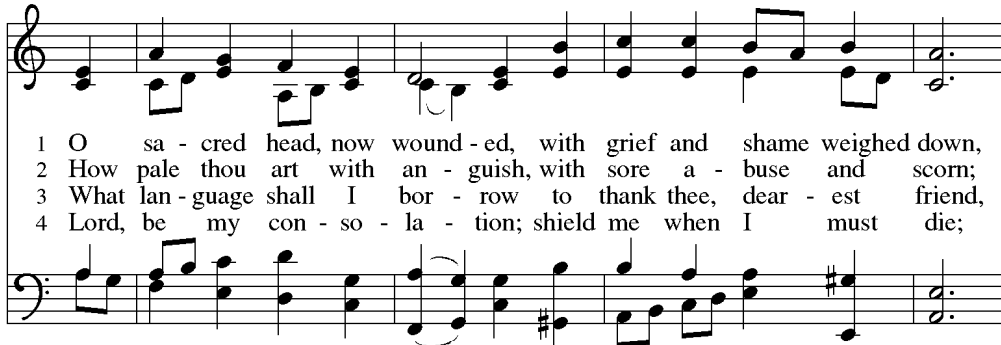
⁷²He denied it again, with an oath: “I don’t know the man!”

⁷³After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, “Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away.” ⁷⁴Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!”

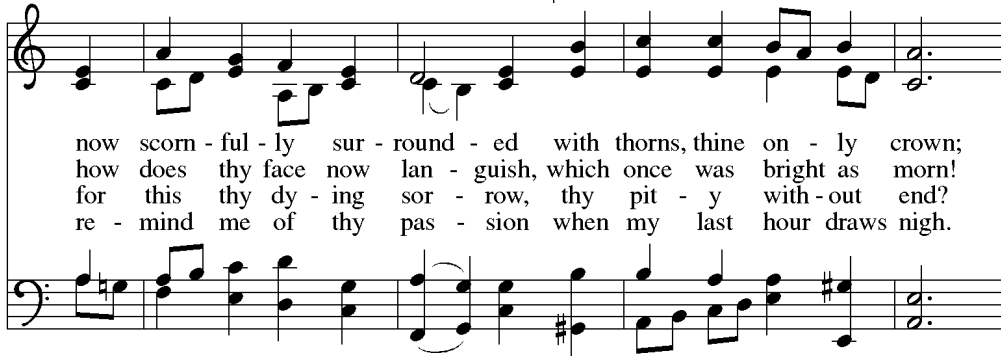
Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

HYMN

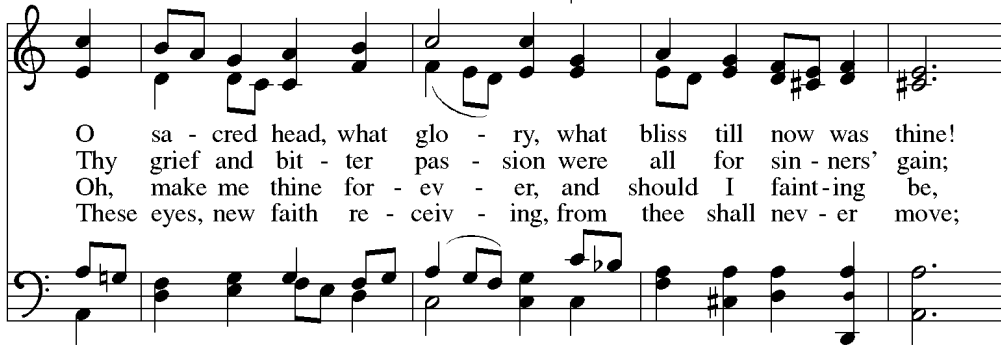
“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, but ours are the hearts that tremble, the knees that shake, the eyes that cannot see, and the flesh that is weak. Give us faith, that we may not deny you, but acknowledge you as the way, the truth, and the life. May your will, and not ours, be done.

Amen

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Second Candle extinguished

Darkness of Judgment

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 27:11-26

¹Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people came to the decision to put Jesus to death. ²They bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate, the governor. ¹¹Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” “Yes, it is as you say,” Jesus replied.

¹²When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate asked him, “Don’t you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?” ¹⁴But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor.

¹⁵Now it was the governor’s custom at the Feast to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. ¹⁶At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” ¹⁸For he knew it was out of envy that they had handed Jesus over to him.

¹⁹While Pilate was sitting on the judge’s seat, his wife sent him this message: “Don’t have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.”

²⁰But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

²¹“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor.

“Barabbas,” they answered.

²²“What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?” Pilate asked.

They all answered, “Crucify him!”

²³“Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

²⁴When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!” ²⁵All the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!”

²⁶Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

HYMN

“Give Me Jesus”



1 In the morn - ing when I rise, in the morn - ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid - night was my cry, dark . . . mid - night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, the kingdoms and authorities of the world mock your Son and his Word. Take from us the desire to choose people of violence. Guide us away from poor decisions and bring us to your kingdom of truth.

Amen

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Third Candle extinguished

Darkness of Suffering

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 27:27-38

²⁷Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. ³⁰They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

³²As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. ³³They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). ³⁴There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. ³⁵When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. ³⁶And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. ³⁷Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁸Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.



HYMN

“Were You There?”

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!
 there when they laid him in the tomb?

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 when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, the powers of darkness surrounding us are fearsome. When we are accused, we are tempted to shrink from our witness. Grant us the courage to speak your truth boldly, even though our face may be given to those who chastise us.

Amen

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Fourth Candle extinguished

Darkness of Death

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 27:45-56

⁴⁵From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶About 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?”

⁴⁷When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.”

⁴⁸Immediately 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. ⁴⁹The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

⁵⁰And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. ⁵²The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus’ resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

⁵⁴When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”

⁵⁵Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. ⁵⁶Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.

ST. MARTIN'S CHANCEL CHOIR

"Come Walk with Me"

by P. Choplin

*Come walk with me on this holy road where Jesus came into Jerusalem.
Hear the shouts of joy the people raise, see the crowd as they welcome Him in praise.*

*Come walk with me to the upper room, see the lamp's soft and flickering light.
See Him share the cup and break the bread, hear the pain in the last farewells He said.
Walk with me up to Gethsemane and hear Him pray, "Thy will be done."
See the mob, they come with torch and sword in dark of night to seize the Lord.*

Come and see where Jesus stood, hear the lies and scorn that He endured.

Here, the trial where Jesus was condemned.

This is the place where the suffering would begin.

*We'll follow Jesus' footsteps up the hill, where he would fall beneath cross.
But for Jesus, there would be no rest; they forced Him on to meet His death.*

*Come walk with him to this cursed place, see the rough and splintered cross
where the Son of God was crucified. Walk with me see the place where Jesus died.*

PRAYER

Almighty and Eternal God, in the night of death, Christ Jesus was laid in a tomb in a garden. Stir in us the confidence of hope to await the dazzling light of dawn in that garden where we shall join you, as you walk again in your new creation. May we be witnesses to the eternal hope of grief becoming joy and life rising from death.

Amen

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Fifth Candle extinguished

Darkness of the Tomb

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

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Matthew 27:57-60


⁵⁷As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. ⁵⁹Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

SOLEMN REPROACHES

The Solemn Reproaches are an ancient text of western Christianity associated with Good Friday. The reproaches follow the pattern of Psalm 78 and Micah 6. Psalm 78 recounts God's continuing acts of faithfulness and Israel's repeated rebellion. Following each sung or spoken reproach the congregation responds with a sung prayer for mercy.

O my people, my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you?
Answer me!

I brought you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism.
I led you through the wilderness, fed you with manna,
brought you through tribulation, gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.



Ho-ly God, ho-ly and might-y, ho-ly and im-mor - tal, have mer-cy on us.

The image shows a musical score for a four-part setting of the first reproach and response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The response is a simple harmonic setting of the same text.

O my people, my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me!
I led you with a pillar of cloud,
but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,
but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me,
and you prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me!
I planted you as my chosen and fairest vineyard
and made you branches of my vine;
but you pierced my side with a spear.
I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,
but when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink,
and you prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me!

I gave you a royal scepter,
and gave you the keys to the kingdom,
but you have given me a crown of thorns.

I gave you my peace, which the world cannot give,
but you draw the sword and strike in my name,
and you prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, my church, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me!

I washed your feet as a sign of my love
and offered you my body and blood,
but you scatter, deny and abandon me.

I prayed that all may be one in the Father and me,
but you continue to quarrel and divide, casting lots for my clothing,
and you prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

O my people, my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you?

Answer me!

I came to you as the least of your brothers,
hungry with no food, thirsty with no water,
stranger with no welcome,

sick and in prison and you did not visit me,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Sixth Candle extinguished

The Paschal Candle is removed.

The Paschal Candle is an ancient symbol of the Church, reminding us of the presence of Jesus among His people. The candle is kept near the Baptismal font and is lit for Baptisms (reminding us that we have been baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection), Funerals (reminding us that in death we have gained the promise of resurrection to eternal life), and the season of Easter.

Philippians 2:6-8

While he was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being born in human likeness and being found in human form he humbled himself, and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.

A drum roll is played signifying the earthquake at Jesus’ death and the closing of the tomb.

**Everyone is asked to leave in silence
following the return of the lit Paschal Candle
Go in peace.**

† † † † † † † † † † † † †



Participating in Tonight's Worship:

Choir Director	Steve Basselman
Pianist	Rick Breier
Organist	Matthew Wachtman
Acolyte	Kennedy Bailey
Soloist	Adam Grisier, St. Martin's
Drum	Mike Short, St. Martin's
Readers	Steve Basselman, St. Martin's Jason Sharp, Archbold United Methodist Dave Elkins, Central Mennonite Ryan Harker, West Clinton Mennonite Brenna Harker, West Clinton Mennonite Bill Phelps, St. Martin's

April 9 - Easter Sunday at St. Martin's

- 7:00 Easter Vigil Sunrise Service
with Holy Communion
- 8:00 Easter Breakfast, hosted by Cecily Rohrs' Adult Sunday School Class
- 8:45 Easter Egg Hunt (after Breakfast)
- 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Festival Service with Holy Communion

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed Text: Isaac Watts, Tune: Hugh Wilson

Go to Dark Gethsemane Text: James Montgomery Music: Richard Redhead

Wondrous Love Text: 19th century North American folk hymn, Tune: from Southern Harmony, arr Paul Christiansen

Were You There? Traditional African American Spiritual

Scripture quotations are from *New International Version* © 1984, International Bible Society

Solemn Reproaches Text: alt. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ©2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Musical setting by Steve Basselman

PSALM 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver — let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me; ¹³they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; ¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled; ¹⁷I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me; ¹⁸they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD, ³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.