



**Unity Moravian Church
Good Friday & Tenebrae Service
April 14, 2022**

Watchword for Good Friday: “He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful.” Psalm 111:4

Welcome and Invitation to Worship

Prelude *Overture, from the Messiah* G. F. Handel

Jesus before the Council

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, “If you are the Messiah, tell us.” He replied, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” All of them asked, “Are you, then, the Son of God?” He said to them, “You say that I am.” Then they said, “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!” (Luke 22:66-71)

Hymn LATROBE, 581A

*Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
O the worm-wood and the gall!
O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff’ring, shame or loss;
Learn of him to bear the cross.*

(1)

Jesus before Pilate

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.” Then Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” He answered, “You say so.” (Luke 23:1-3)

Hymn

CASSEL, 167A

*Hail, O once despised Jesus!
Hail, O Galilean King!
You have suffered to release us,
Hope, salvation, joy to bring.
Hail, O agonizing Savior,
Bearer of our sin and shame;
By your merits we find favor;
Life is given through your name.*

Jesus before Herod

Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.” But they were insistent and said, “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.” When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Jesus Sentenced to Death

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.” (Luke 23:4-16)

(2)

Hymn

EISLEBEN 519A

*Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Savior,
Our eternal God!
Lamb of God unspotted,
To our prayers, O lend an ear.
Have mercy, O Lord.*

Jesus Sentenced to Death

Then they all shouted out together, “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!” (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. (Luke 23:17-25)

Hymn

ZURICH, 168A

*Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, for us yourself once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suffering, death and merit,
life eternal we inherit;
thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.*

(3)

The Crucifixion of Jesus

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?” (Luke 23:26-31)

Hymn

PASSION CHORALE, 151A

*O sacred head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory
and blessing you have known!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I claim you as my own.*

Silent Prayer

By your cross and suffering,
By your sacred wounds and precious blood,
By your dying words,
By your atoning death,
Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God.

Anthem

He Was Despised

Karl H. Graun

(4)

The Tenebrae Service

First Word “Father, Forgive Them”

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” (Luke 23:33-38)

Hymn

INNSBRUCK (79 A)

*O God of unrelenting grace,
whose judgment yet we daily face,
forgive us now, good Lord.
You are so distant and so near;
for you we long,
yet you we fear, O known,
and yet beyond record.*

*For thinking you too far from us,
for fearing you too close to us,
forgive us now, good Lord.
You dwell in high and holy place,
and yet touch all things with your grace.
Through all our lives be now adored.*

Second Word “Today, You Will Be with Me in Paradise”

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:39-43)

(5)

Hymn

SOUTHWELL

*Lord Jesus, think on me and purge away my sin;
From selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.*

*Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
I may eternal brightness see and share your joy at last.*

Third Word “Woman, Behold Your Son”

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. (John 19:25-27)

Hymn 130

STABAT MATER, 95C

*Near the Cross was Mary weeping, there her mournful station keeping,
Gazing on her dying Son.
There was speechless grief oppressed, anguish-stricken and distressed,
Through her soul the sword had gone.*

*Who upon that Sufferer gazing, bowed in sorrow so amazing,
Would not with His mother mourn?
‘Twas our sins brought Him from heaven; these the cruel nails had driven;
All His griefs for us were bourne.*

*When no eye its pity gave us, when there was no arm to save us,
He His love and power displayed;
By His stripes He wrought our healing; by His death, our life revealing,
He for us the ransom paid.*

(6)

Fourth Word “My God Why Have You Forsaken Me”

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:45-46)

Anthem *Eli, Eli, Lama Sabachthani* Ruth Elaine Schram

Fifth Word “I Am Thirsty”

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” 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. (John 19:28-29)

Hymn HAMBURG

*When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*See, from his head, his hands,
his feet sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

Sixth Word “It Is Finished”

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” (John 19:30)

Anthem *Tis Finished* Deborah Governor

Seventh Word “Father, Into Your Hands I Commend My Spirit”

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. (Luke 23:46-49)

Anthem *Were You There?*

(Men) *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

(Women) *Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?*

Silent Meditation in Darkness

Depart in Silence

Musicians for the Service:

Choir of Unity Moravian Church
String Quartet: Corine Brouwer (violin), Brian Ford (violin), Cathy Dudley (viola),
Natalie Parker (cello)
David Blum, Music Director
Donna Shore, Organist/Pianist