Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae Service April 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.



At the ringing of the chimes please silence your conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God. We also ask that you power off your cell phones to prevent interference with our live-streaming and recording equipment.

Bolded text is read or sung by all.
*Please rise in body or spirit.

Follow us also on



or on our church website at westminsterakron.org

*Call to Worship

On this day Christ, the Lamb of God, gave himself into the hands of those who would slav him.

On this day Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

On this day Christ, our God, gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his holy sacrifice

and be partakers of his resurrection, and at the last day may reign with him in heaven.

*Prayer

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Hvmn #92 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Matthew 26:20-25

- 20 When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve.
- 21 And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betrav me."
- 22 And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?"
- 23 He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me.
- 24 The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."
- 25 Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

Matthew 26:31-35

- 31 Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'
- 32 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."
- 33 Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away."
- 34 Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."
- 35 Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell *Extinguish candle #2*

Mark 14:32-41

- 32 And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray."
- 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled.
- 34 And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch."
- 35 And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.
- 36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."
- 37 And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour?
- 38 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
- 39 And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.
- 40 And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him.

41 And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

*Hymn #97

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Extinguish candle #3

Matthew 26:46-52

46 Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

47 While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

48 Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him."

49 And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him.

50 Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

51 And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear.

52 Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword.

SPECIAL MUSIC I Wonder Why Richard Avery & Donald Marsh Extinguish candle#4

Luke 22:54-62

54 Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance.

55 And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them.

56 Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him."

57 But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

58 And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not."

59 And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean."
60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about."
And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.
61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times."
62 And he went out and wept bitterly.

SPECIAL MUSIC

God So Loved the World John Stainer Extinguish candle#5

John 18:33-38a

33 So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

34 Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?"

35 Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?"

36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

37 Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world--to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

38 Pilate said to him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him.

Hymn #93

Ah, Holy Jesus

Extinguish candle#6

Matthew 27:20-26

20 Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

21 The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

22 Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!"

23 And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

24 So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." 25 And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"

26 Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Crucifixion

Samuel Barber Extinguish candle#7

Mark 15:16-20

16 And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. 17 And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him.

18 And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

19 And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him.

20 And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

Let us confess our sin as we approach the Lord's Table:

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command.

In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.

The Bread The Cup

The Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Let us pray together

Lead us, O God, by the power of your Spirit to live as love commands. Bound to Christ, set us free for joyful obedience and glad service. As Jesus gave his life for ours, help us to live our lives for others with humility and persistent courage.

Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast with you at your table in glory.

Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn #101 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Extinguish candle#8

*The Benediction

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Peace be with you.



The Church Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 15, 2022.

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