

Community Good Friday Worship Service

April 15, 2022 - 12:00pm and 12:30pm

Thank you for attending this Community Good Friday Worship Service. There are two one-half hour services.
You are invited to remain for both sections, or feel free to come and go at the end of the first section.
Your free will offering, left in the plates at the door, will go to alleviate suffering in Ukraine
. A free sack lunch is available for anyone who would like one, even if you're not going back to work!

12:00pm Organ Prelude: "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" by Melchior Velpius; arr. Wilbur Held

Words of Welcome Rev. Amy Terhune

***Call to Worship** (based on Isaiah 53:5-8) Rev. Amy Terhune

L: He was wounded for our transgressions, and crushed for our sinfulness.

**P: On Him was the punishment that makes us whole, and by His bruises we are healed.
The Lord laid on Him the vices of us all.**

L: We are like sheep who have gone astray and turned to our own way.

P: And He became a lamb led to slaughter, silent before His assailants.

L: By the perversion of justice, He was condemned.

P: Could any have imagined His future?

***Opening Hymn UMH #289:** "Ah, Holy Jesus"

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| 1) Ah, holy Jesus,
how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee
have in hate pretended?
By foes derided,
by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted! | And the Son hath suffered.
For our atonement,
while we nothing heeded,
God interceded. |
| 2) Who was the guilty?
Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason,
Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus,
I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee. | 4) For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,
Thy mortal sorrow,
And thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish
And thy bitter passion,
For my salvation. |
| 3) Lo, the Good Shepherd
for the sheep is offered;
The slave hath sinned, | 5) Therefore, kind Jesus,
Since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
Think on thy pity
And thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving. |

Scripture Reading: Psalm 22 (read responsively) U.M. Hymnal pg. 752-753
Rev. Amy Terhune

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Rev. Amy Terhune

God of Passion, on this day of betrayal and death, we remember those times we have been part of the crowd seeking our best interest over what is right and good. God of Fidelity, on this day of fear and denial, we remember those times when we choose the path of safety over loyalty to your Way. God of Constant Presence, on this day of despair and loss, we remember the ways we have wandered away from your presence, only to complain that we are abandoned. God of the Cross, for all the ways we have missed the mark or come short, forgive us. Through your Grace bring us back into relationship, and help us find the path again.

(adapted from Rev. Gord on <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>)

Time of Silent Meditation

The Words of Assurance

Rev. Amy Terhune

Even in the face of betrayal and rebellion; Even in the face of death and denial; Even in the face of fear and despair, God's Grace knows no bounds. We are forgiven; we are called back into relationship; we are set back on the path that leads to the Realm of God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Choral Anthem:

“The Only Road to Easter Morning”

by Beall/Carter

Scripture Reading:

John 1:29 and John 15:13-14

Rev. David Wichert

^{1:29} The next day, John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared:

“Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

^{15:13} No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you.

Meditation

“NO GREATER LOVE THAN THIS”

Rev. David Wichert

***Hymn UMH #285:**

“To Mock Your Reign”

1) To mock your reign, O dearest Lord,
They made a crown of thorns;
Set you with taunts along that road
From which no one returns.

They could not know, as we do now,
How glorious is that crown;
That thorns would flower upon your
Brow, your sorrows heal our own.

2) In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord,
They snatched a purple cloak;
Your passion turned, for all they
Cared, into a soldier's joke.

They could not know, as we do now,
That though we merit blame,
You will your robe of mercy throw
Around our naked shame.

3) A sceptered reed, O patient Lord,
They thrust into your hand,
And acted out their grim charade
To its appointed end.

They could not know, as we do now,
Though empires rise and fall,
Your kingdom shall not cease
To grow till love embraces all.

12:30pm Organ Interlude:

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

by Lowell Mason; arr. John Carter

Worshippers may enter and exit at this time

Unison Prayer:

Rev. Carol McCleary

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that He might draw the whole world to Himself. Grant that we, who are saved by his death, may follow faithfully in taking up our crosses, that we may know the richness of a life lived in service and sacrifice in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Hymn UMH #290:** *“Go To Dark Gethsemane” (vs. 1-3)*

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| 1) Go to dark Gethsemane,
Ye that feel the tempter's power;
Your redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with him one bitter hour.
Turn not from his griefs away;
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray. | O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn of Christ to bear the cross. |
| 2) See him at the judgment hall,
Beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! | 3) Calvary's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
Learn of Jesus Christ to die. |

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Carol McCleary

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. Amen.

Choral Anthem:

“Beneath His Cross She Watches”

Mary Kay Beall / John Carter

Scripture Reading:

John 19:1-11

Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah

¹ Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³ They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. ⁴ 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.” ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!” ⁶ 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.” ⁷ 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.” ⁸ Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ 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?” ¹¹ 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.”

Meditation

“THE CROWN OF THORNS”

Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah

***Hymn UMH #288:**

“Were You There” (vs. 1-3)

- 1) Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
- 2) Were you there
when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there
when they nailed Him to the tree?

- Oh! sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3) Were you there
when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there
when they pierced him in the side?
Oh! sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they pierced him in the side?

***Benediction**

Rev. Carol McCleary

***Postlude:**

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

arr. Hugh S. Livingston Jr.



*** You are invited to stand if you are able**

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY’S SERVICE:

- Rev. Carol McCleary – Michigan Avenue Baptist Church
- Rev. Philomena Ofori-Nipaah – Second Presbyterian Church
- Rev. Amy Terhune – First United Methodist Church
- Rev. David Wichert – Ames United Methodist Church
- Bryan Latimer, Organist – First United Methodist Church
- Rod Bieber, Choir Director – First United Methodist Church

Thank-you to all the choir members from these churches who participated. We appreciate all of you!

CELEBRATE EASTER IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Michigan Avenue Baptist Church

203 S. Michigan Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 793-8555

Easter Worship – Sunday 4/17: 10:45am

Ames United Methodist Church

801 State Street, Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 754-6373

Easter Breakfast – Sunday 4/17: 10:00-11:00am

Easter Worship – Sunday 4/17: 11:00am

Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Road, Saginaw, MI 48603
(989) 792-1023

Easter Vigil – Sat. 4/18: 10:00am–2:00pm

Easter Worship – Sunday 4/17: 9:00am

First United Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638
(989) 799-0131

Easter Coffee Hour: 20 minutes before/after worship

Easter Sunday Worship: 10:00am