

# Community Good Friday Worship Service

April 7, 2023 - 12:00pm and 12:30pm

Thank you for attending this Community Good Friday Worship Service. There are two one-half hour services, and they are different. 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 the Mustard Seed Women's Shelter here in Saginaw. 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:** "Go To Dark Gethsemane" by Richard Redhead; arr. Phil Lehenbauer  
"Ah, Dearest Jesus" by Johann Cruger; 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 #298:** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

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| 1) When I survey the wondrous cross<br>On which the Prince of Glory died,<br>My richest gain I count but loss,<br>And pour contempt on all my pride.          | 3) See, from his head, his hands, his feet,<br>Sorrow and love flow mingled down.<br>Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,<br>Or thorns compose so rich a crown? |
| 2) Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,<br>Save in the death of Christ, my God;<br>All the vain things that charm me most,<br>I sacrifice them to his blood. | 4) Were the whole realm of nature mine,<br>That were an offering far too small;<br>Love so amazing, so divine,<br>Demands my soul, my life, my all.            |

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 22 (read responsively) *U.M. Hymnal pg. 752-753*  
*Rev. Ruth Estell*

**Unison Prayer of Confession:** *Rev. David Wichert*

**Lord, we confess that we have strayed from you every time we hold our grudges and refuse to extend grace. We have denied you every time we have failed to see your face in the faces of the hungry and the homeless. We have betrayed you every time that we have kept our distance from those facing oppression and injustice. We have mocked you each time we have pretended we do not know how radically you call us to love. All-Merciful, though we have strayed, you have never abandoned us. In this season of repentance, we come confessing our sins and reaching out for your healing and forgiveness. Renew our hearts, and inspire us to be more faithful in every time of trial, we pray through Christ. Amen.**

*[from Patmos Abbey; [https://re-worship.blogspot.com.](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/)]*

## Time of Silent Meditation

### The Words of Assurance

*Rev. David Wichert*

**L:** Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. This proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**P:** **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**All:** **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### Choral Anthem:

*"Once Upon A Tree"*

*by Pepper Choplin*

### Scripture Reading:

Luke 23:44-49

*Rev. Carol McCleary*

<sup>44</sup> It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup> while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. <sup>47</sup> When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." <sup>48</sup> And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. <sup>49</sup> But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

### Meditation

"SURRENDER"

*Rev. Carol McCleary*

### \*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?

### A Word About Today's Offering

*Rev. Ruth Estell*

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**12:30pm Organ Interlude:** *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

*by George Bennard; arr. Richard Kingsmore*

*Worshippers may enter and exit at this time*

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**Unison Prayer:**

*Rev. Ruth Estell*

**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 #285:**

*"To Mock Your Reign"*

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| 1) To mock your reign, O dearest Lord,<br>They made a crown of thorns;<br>Set you with taunts along that road<br>From which no one returns.<br>They could not know, as we do now,<br>How glorious is that crown;<br>That thorns would flower upon your<br>Brow, your sorrows heal our own. | They could not know, as we do now,<br>That though we merit blame,<br>You will your robe of mercy throw<br>Around our naked shame.  |
| 2) In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord,<br>They snatched a purple cloak;<br>Your passion turned, for all they<br>Cared, into a soldier's joke.  | 3) A sceptered reed, O patient Lord,<br>They thrust into your hand,<br>And acted out their grim charade<br>To its appointed end.<br>They could not know, as we do now,<br>Though empires rise and fall,<br>Your kingdom shall not cease<br>To grow till love embraces all. |

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

*Rev. David Wichert*

**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:**

*"Even the Heavens Are Weeping"*

*by Joseph M. Martin*

**Scripture Reading:**

Matthew 27:15-26

*Rev. Amy Terhune*

<sup>15</sup> Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup> At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup> So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" <sup>18</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. <sup>19</sup> While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." <sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. <sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." <sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" <sup>23</sup> Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" <sup>24</sup> So when

Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." <sup>25</sup> Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" <sup>26</sup> So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

**Video Introduction:** Gibbs' Rule #40: *If you think someone's out to get you, they are....*

**Meditation**

"RULE #40"

Rev. Amy Terhune

**\*Hymn UMH #292:** "What Wondrous Love Is This"

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| 1) What wondrous love is this,<br>O my soul, O my soul,<br>What wondrous love is this, O my soul!<br>What wondrous love is this<br>That caused the Lord of bliss<br>To bear the dreadful curse<br>for my soul, for my soul,<br>To bear the dreadful curse for my soul. | 3) To God and to the Lamb<br>I will sing, I will sing,<br>To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;<br>To God and to the Lamb<br>who is the great I AM,<br>While millions join the theme<br>I will sing, I will sing;<br>While millions join the theme I will sing.               |
| 2) What wondrous love is this,<br>O my soul, O my soul,<br>What wondrous love is this, O my soul!<br>What wondrous love is this,<br>That caused the Lord of life<br>To lay aside his crown<br>for my soul, for my soul,<br>To lay aside his crown for my soul.         | 4) And when from death I'm free,<br>I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and<br>And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;<br>And when from death I'm free,<br>I'll sing and joyful be,<br>And through eternity<br>I'll sing on, I'll sing on,<br>And through eternity I'll sing on. |

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Ruth Estell

**\*Postlude:**

"O Darkest Woe"

Wurzburg Songbook; arr. Wilbur Held

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\* You are invited to stand if you are able

**PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:**

Rev. Carol McCleary – Michigan Avenue Baptist Church  
Rev. Ruth Estell – Second Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Amy Terhune – First United Methodist Church  
Rev. David Wichert – Ames & Caro United Methodist Churches  
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 / <https://mabcsaginaw.org/>  
Easter Worship – Sunday 4/9: 10:45am

### Second Presbyterian Church

2665 Midland Road, Saginaw, MI 48603  
(989) 792-1023 / <https://www.spcsaginaw.org/>  
Easter Worship – Sunday 4/9: 9:00am

### Ames United Methodist Church

801 State Street, Saginaw, MI 48602  
(989) 754-6373 / <https://www.ameschurch.org/>  
Easter Worship – Sunday 4/9: 9:00am

### Caro United Methodist Church

670 W Gilford Rd, Caro, MI 48723  
(989) 673-2246 / <https://www.caroumc.org/>  
Easter Worship – Sunday 4/9: 11:00am

### First United Methodist Church

4790 Gratiot Road, Saginaw, MI 48638  
(989) 799-0131 / <http://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/>  
Easter Coffee Hour: 20 minutes before/after worship  
Easter Worship – Sunday 4/9: 10:00am

### **THE SEVEN LAST UTTERANCES OF JESUS**

**“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” – Luke 23:34**

**“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” – Luke 23:43**

**“My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?” – Matthew 27:46**

**Jesus said to his mother: “Woman, here is your son.”**

**Then he said to the disciple: “Here is your mother.” – John 19:26-27**

**“I Thirst” – John 19:28**

**“It Is finished.” – John 19:30**

**“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” – Luke 23:46**