

Prayer of Response

Eternal One, you have loved us so deeply, so dearly, so wholly. Christ has faithfully embodied your love among us; the light of your love has shone, even in the darkness. You have set us free from the fear of death, so that we may love courageously.

May we, the church, the Body of Christ, embody your love and forgiveness, and radiate your light. God, have mercy.

*Hymn No. 292

What Wondrous Love Is This

The United Methodist Hymnal
WONDROUS LOVE

7 - *"Into your hands I commit my spirit." The Seventh Candle Extinguished*

Prayer of Response

O Holy, Indwelling One, may we live by your Spirit, the spirit of gentleness and peace, of compassion and healing. Put to death all that is evil in us, and grant that we may die with Christ, that you may raise us to new life.

Into your hands we commit our spirit. God, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. God, have mercy.

Thy Will Be Done

St. John's Chancel Choir, Alan Winner, soloist
Craig Courtney

*Our cup was filled with darkness.
Our cup was filled with death.
Christ took our cup, and drank it.
And gave us life. And gave us hope.
Gave us himself.*

*My Father, let this cup pass from me.
Yet not my will, O Lord, but thine be done.*

*In blackest night, we hear him
in dark Gethsemane.
Pleading with the Father*

*For one more hope
For one more way
For one more day.*

*Then they took our Savior,
and led Him to a tree,
and there they broke His body,
poured out His life,
put Him to death
to rise again!*

Fourth Gospel Lesson - John 19: 31-42, p. 114, N.T.

Rev. Josh Stueve

The Christ candle is removed

Act of Praise

Were You There

Sara Yancey, soprano

*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?*

*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?*

*Were you there when
they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when
they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?*

*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?*

Silent Reflection

*The sanctuary will remain open for prayer and silent reflection.
When ready, please depart in silence.*

Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 2025

6:00 p.m.

 **ST. JOHN'S**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Address: 1501 University Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401

Phone: 806-762-0123 **Web:** stjohnslubbock.org

Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

The Worship of God - 6:00 P.M. Service

ENTRANCE

Gather in Silence.

You are invited to use this time of gathering to prepare yourself for worship.

Introduction - Philippians 2: 5-11

Rev. Josh Stueve

Prelude

Meditation on Good Friday

Clint Barrick

Clint Barrick

*Call to Worship

Gracious God, held in your love, we come to witness the depth of the human struggle, the great wound of being human, the suffering of the world.

Held in your love, we come to the cross.

We come to touch our sorrow, and that of all who mourn, the broken heart of humanity.

Held in your love, we come to the cross.

We come to face the depth of our sin, the reach of our violence, the terror of our injustice.

Held in your love, we come to the cross.

And we come to behold your infinite love: for in our evil you forgive; in our loneliness you embrace us; in our death you accompany us.

Held in your love, we come to the cross. God have mercy, as we behold the mystery of your grace.

*Hymn No. 285

To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord

The United Methodist Hymnal

KINGSFOLD

Lighting a Candle for Peace, Hope, and Justice

The light shines in the darkness.

We stand in this light, unshaken, knowing that the darkness has never overcome the light.

Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice.

Empower us, Jesus, to boldly use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin

The Lord's Prayer

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.

CHRIST'S PASSION STORY

Please observe a moment of quiet reflection between readings.

Gospel Lesson - John 18:1—19:30, p. 112-114, N.T.

Marie Cox, Alan Winner, Allison Matherly

Meditation on the Seven Last Words

Revs. Josh Stueve & Ann Akin

1 - "*Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*" *The First Candle Extinguished*

Prayer

God of truth, we are not aware of our evil or conscious of how we hurt others. Awaken us, O God, that we may be mindful of our sin.

Open the eyes of our hearts, that we may see ourselves with loving clarity, as you see us - and repent. God, have mercy.

*Hymn No. 286

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

The United Methodist Hymnal

PASSION CHORALE

2 - "*Today you will be with me in paradise.*" *The Second Candle Extinguished*

Prayer

Holy One, you promise us a realm of mercy and justice, yet we thwart it by our judgment and injustice.

Heal us and all the world, that we may truly enter into the Empire of your love that you have prepared for us. God, have mercy.

3 - "*Woman, here is your son. Son, here is your mother.*" *The Third Candle Extinguished*

Prayer

Christ our brother, you make us one family in your love. We pray for all our siblings and our kin the world over, for communities, and for mothers who must see their children suffer because of injustice.

For the sin of our racism, our divisions and our fears. Forgive us and heal us. God, have mercy.

And the Mother Did Weep

(sung in English, Hebrew, Latin, Aramaic and Greek)

St. John's Choral Scholars

Karl Jenkins

And the Mother did weep.

Vehaeym bachetah. (Hebrew)

Lacrimavit Mater. (Latin)

Warkath hahi imma. (Aramaic)

Kai eklausen he meter. (Greek)

4 - "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" *The Fourth Candle Extinguished*

Prayer

Gentle God, you share our fear and loneliness. You are always present with us and for us. May the Passion of your beloved Son give us help in all our trials, and strength in our human weakness.

We pray for all who are lonely, and all who feel unworthy. God, have mercy.

Forsaken

St. John's Chancel Choir, Trisha Hoang, violin, and Seth Grayson, cello
Dan Forrest

How long, oh God, will You neglect my prayer?

Will You forget these tears of dark despair?

Yet not my will but Yours alone be done:

forsake not man, but me, your sinless son.

Oh, why, My God, have You forsaken me?

Why have You refused my final plea?

Though I cry out in sorrow, pain, and fear,

You turn your back in silence, disappear.

*I, Christ the Son, obey Your
great command, enduring punishment for sinful man.*

As Son and silent lamb, I choose this path:

accept rejection to appease Your wrath.

*I, Christ the Son, bear all their sin alone,
embracing judgment from your glorious throne.*

As Son and spotless lamb, I shed my blood

To bring them boldly to your face, My God.

5 - "*I am thirsty.*" *The Fifth Candle Extinguished*

Prayer

We pray for the poor and all who are hungry and thirsty in body or soul. We ourselves hunger for your presence and thirst for your grace.

We pray for all who suffer, and for those who exercise power in the world. God, have mercy.

Ave Maria

St. John's Choral Scholars, Jeannie Barrick, soloist
Michal Ziolkowski

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,

ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

6 - "*It is finished.*" *The Sixth Candle Extinguished*

**You're invited to stand at moments in this service marked with an asterisk.*

***Please silence all cell phones and electronic devices.*