

St. Matthias Episcopal Church



Tenebrae Friday, April 18, 2025 7:00 PM

574 W. Montrose Street · Clermont, FL 34711

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The ministers enter in silence

Responsive Reading

Officiant: We glory in your cross, O Lord,

People: And praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

Officiant: May God be merciful to us and bless us,

People: Show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Officiant: Let your ways be known upon earth,

People: Your saving health among all nations.

Officiant: Let the people praise you, O God;

People: Let all the people praise you. We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

READING: Isaiah 52:13—53:6

Reader: A Reading from Isaiah.

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Candle one is extinguished.

HYMN: Stabat Mater dolorosa (Arr. Charles W. Douglas)
The Singing Saints

Officiant: Surely he has borne our griefs:

People: And carried our sorrows.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Lord God, who hast brought all the great promises of the Gospel to us through the sorrows and death of thy dear Son Jesus Christ: Grant us, whensoever thou ask it, to suffer in so good a manner and for so good a cause as may be worthy of union with his most holy sufferings; that we may tread with the King the way to the kingdom; where he reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

READING: Isaiah 53:7-12

Reader: A Reading from Isaiah.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Candle two is extinguished.

HYMN: “He was despised” from *Messiah* (Arr. Georg Friderich Handel)
Fanya Jones, contralto

Officiant: The Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all:

People: For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Christ, the King of kings, whose sinless and venerable head we crowned with thorns: Grant us with thee to seek no diadem other than that which crowneth victory over sin; who livest and reignest in the glory of the eternal Trinity, God, world without end. **Amen.**

READING: John 12:31-36a

Reader: A Reading from John.


Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

Candle three is extinguished.

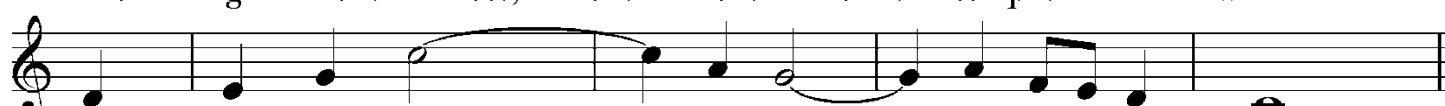
HYMN 473 *Lift High the Cross (Crucifer)*

All stand.

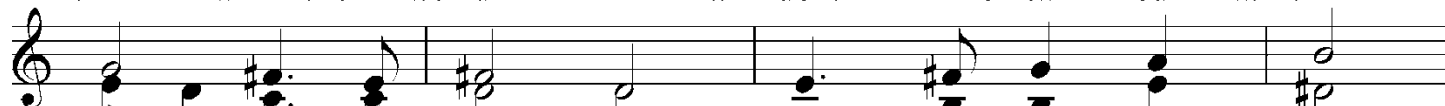
Refrain



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim




till all the world a - dore his sa - cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Repeat Refrain



the hosts of God in con - quering ranks com - bine.
bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw the world to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

Officiant: And I, if I be lifted up:

People: Will draw all things unto myself.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

READING: John 18:33—19:11

Reader: A Reading from John.

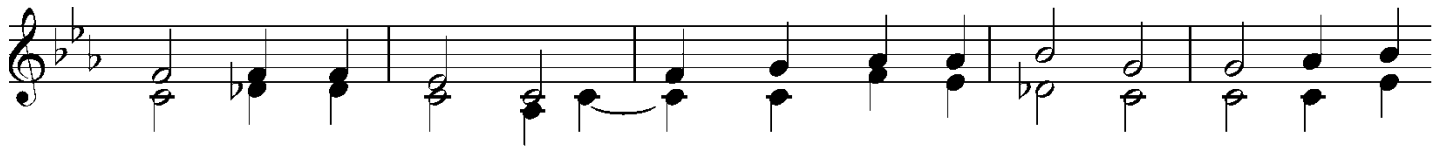
Then Pilate again entered the headquarters, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate asked him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” They shouted in reply, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a bandit.

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

Candle four is extinguished.

HYMN 158 *Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended (Herzliebster Jesu)*

All stand.



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty



1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Officiant: Be imitators of God, and walk in love:

People: As Christ love us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who in thy forgiving love didst pray for those who nailed thee to the cross, and hast taught us to forgive one another as we have been forgiven; take from us all bitterness and resentment towards our fellows, and give us the spirit of mutual forgiveness and brotherly love; that so, in perfect charity, we may be partakers of thy everlasting kingdom; for thy mercy's sake. **Amen.**

READING: Luke 23:33-43

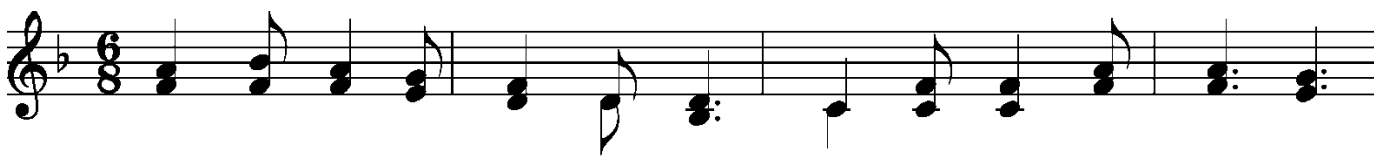
Reader: A Reading from Luke.

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." 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."

Candle five is extinguished.

LEVAS 29 *Near the cross*

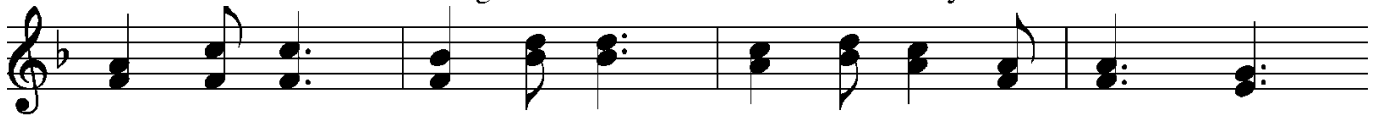
All stand.



1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
4. Near the cross, I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Officiant: For as in Adam all die:

People: Even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Christ, Redeemer and Lord, who by thy death didst bequeath to us so great a legacy as to inherit life: So charge, we pray thee, our mortality with thine immortal Spirit, that led by grace in the way we lose not glory in the end; where with the Father and the same Spirit thou livest and reignest, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READING: Philippians 2:5-11

Reader: A Reading from Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Candle six is extinguished.

HYMN: Calvary (Arr. Clayton White)
The Singing Saints

Candle seven is extinguished.

Officiant: Christ did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped;

People: But emptied himself, being born in the likeness of mortals.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High God, who didst empty thyself and give thy whole life to us, even unto death, the death of the Cross; grant us to receive so immeasurable a gift with penitence, with gratefulness, and with joy, so that we hold nothing of ourselves from others and from thee, who livest and reignest in the glory of the eternal Trinity, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All stand.

Officiant: We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee.

People: Because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

Officiant: O Saviour of the world, by thy cross and precious blood thou hast redeemed us:

People: Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Officiant: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy Passion, Cross and death between thy judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Vouchsafe to the living mercy and grace, to the dead pardon and rest, to thy holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest world without end. **Amen.**

May the glorious Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ bring us to the joys of Paradise. **Amen.**

There is no dismissal at this service.

All leave in silence.

The Reverend James M. Dorn III, *Rector*

Hugh D. Dial, Jr. M.M., *Organist & Choir Director*

St. Matthias Singing Saints

Anthony Aloï
Michael Clark
Hugh Dial
Fanya Jones
Fred Jones
Courtenay Ryan
Cora Thomas