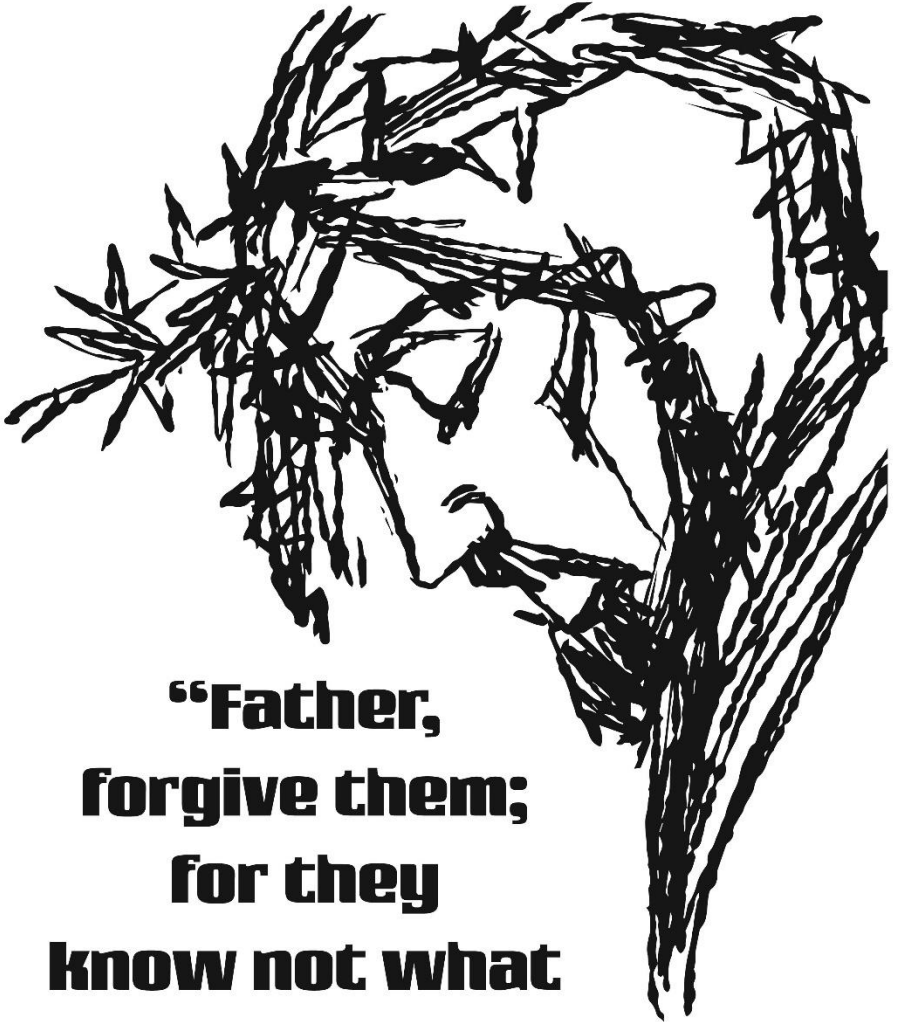


**Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church
419 Bossardsville Road
Stroudsburg, PA**

March 29, 2024

Good Friday

7:00 PM



**“Father,
forgive them;
for they
know not what
they do.”**

Luke 23:34, KJV

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.chrighthamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. All are welcome here. If you are a visitor please feel free to take the welcome folder home with you. We invite you to fill out the card found inside and place it in the plate at the time of the offering. No financial gift is needed – just the card. We consider it your gift to us.

Tonight's Service: *As the church gathers to remember the death of Jesus, we focus not only upon the agony of the cross, but especially upon God's victory through the crucified. This evening, we also remember our participation in the crucifixion.*

Please note -- following the final reading a time of silence is kept for reflection. **After a long pause, a loud noise is made.** All will follow the pastor in joining together to pray the Lord's Prayer.

Worship Leaders

Minister: Rev. Steven C. Claycomb

Keyboard: Gail Derrer

Assistant Minister: Bonnie Claycomb

Choir Director: Tassy Gilbert

Readers: Brian Powers, John Balas, Janet Catina, Logan Potochnick

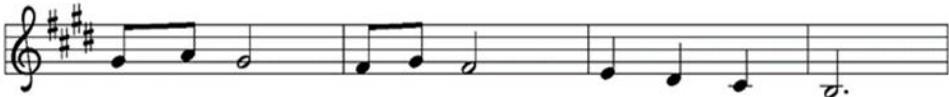
Prelude

Prayers

Assisting Minister: Let us pray . . . Almighty and Eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ.

By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people.

We pray for Bishops Eaton and deforest, for Pastor and the staff of Christ Hamilton. We pray for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Minister: Almighty and Eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love.

Almighty and Eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. ***Repeat sung verse***

Asst. Minister: Almighty and Eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names.

Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son.

Almighty and Eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.

Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. ***Repeat verse***

Minister: Almighty and Eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the world in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you.

Almighty and Eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation.

Almighty and Eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. ***Repeat the verse***

Psalm 22

Reader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my
groaning?

**All: My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;
by night, but I find no rest.**

Reader: Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of
Israel.

**All: Our ancestors put their trust in you,
they trusted, and you rescued them.**

Reader: They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

**All: But as for me, I am a worm and not human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.**

Reader: All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they shake their heads.

**All: "Trust in the Lord; let the Lord deliver;
let God rescue him if God so delights in him."**

Reader: Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb,
and kept me safe on my mother's breast.

**All: I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still
in my mother's womb.**

Reader: Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.

**All: Many young bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**

Reader: They open wide their jaws at me,
like a slashing and roaring lion.

**All: I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

Reader: My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks
to the roof of my mouth;
and you have laid me in the dust of death.

**All: Packs of dogs close me in,
a band of evildoers circles round me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.**

Reader: I can count all my bones
while they stare at me and gloat.

**All: They divide my garments among them;
for my clothing, they cast lots.**

Reader: But you, O Lord, be not far away;
O my help, hasten to my aid.

**All: Deliver me from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog.**

Reader: Save me from the lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

**All: I will declare your name to my people;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

Reader: You who fear the Lord, give praise!
All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

**All: For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their
poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from
them; but when they cry out,
the Lord hears them.**

Reader: From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those
who fear the LORD.

**All: The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts live forever!**

Reader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn
to the LORD; all the families of nations
shall bow before God.

**All: For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

Reader: Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in
worship; all who go down to the dust,
though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**All: Their descendants shall serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

Reader: They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet
unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Minister: Let us pray. . . . Almighty God, look with loving mercy
on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was
willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands
of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who
now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

The Passion

I. The Arrest of Jesus

John 18:1-14

Asst. Minister: We remember all who are betrayed by our actions and
our failure to act. Forgive us Lord for we betray you in
many ways:

**All: By our inability to accept you daily as Lord;
by our inability to accept all people
as our brothers and sisters;
by our stubbornness and self seeking independence;
by our desire to be served instead of serving;**

Asst. Minister: Grant us the wisdom to understand fully that you are indeed our Lord and we are your people so that your will may be done.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane

v. 1

**Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away;
learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
*One lamp is extinguished.***

II. The Denial of Jesus

John 18:15-27

Minister: We remember all those less fortunate than ourselves; the victims of social injustice, the poor, the hungry throughout the world. Forgive us Lord, for we deny you in many ways;

**All: By our failure to acknowledge that social injustice is not just their problem, but our problem;
by our unwillingness to sacrifice what it takes so that the hungry may be nourished;
by our inability to find the courage to reach out to others in time of need;**

Minister: We seek the courage and determination to dedicate ourselves to the elimination of suffering.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

Follow to the judgment hall,
 view the Lord of life arraigned;
 oh, the wormwood and the gall!
 Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
 Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
 learn from him to bear the cross.

One lamp is extinguished.

III. Jesus Before Pilate

John 18:28-38a

Asst. Minister: We remember all who suffer or are persecuted in any way for their proclamation of your word. Forgive us Lord, for our failure to acknowledge you as the truth, the light of the world.

**All: Help us to see that only in you can we know the truth
 of compassion, of wisdom, of hope, of faith,
 of love.**

Asst. Minister: We desire to turn our hearts to you.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
 that man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
 By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
 O most afflicted.

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.

One lamp is extinguished.

IV. Jesus is Sentenced to Death John 18:38b-19:16

Minister: We remember all who have been mocked or hurt because they don't fit into our expectation of acceptable norms. Forgive us Lord, for we mock you in many ways:

**All: By putting down those who differ from our point of view
instead of trying to understand;
by forgetting that all things are created by you
and can offer something of value;**

Minister: Lord grant us patience.

All: Strip us of our arrogance and hypocrisy.

Minister: We desire to find your presence in all things.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

One lamp is extinguished.

V. Jesus is Nailed to the Cross John 19:17-27

One lamp is extinguished.

Minister: We remember all who are nailed to their places by sickness, or color or economic power. Forgive us Lord, for we are still causing death for many.

All: Help us to see what we are doing.

Minister: Our lips have scorned and our hands have done less than good.

All: Father, forgive us.

Minister: We dedicate ourselves to the elimination of all kinds of prejudice and injustice.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

Please drive a nail into the cross as a reminder of our sin, also take a nail home with you and throw it away when you awake on Easter morning. The ushers will assist any who desire help with nailing. When all have had their opportunity to add a nail to the cross, the hymn will be sung after all have returned to their seats.

Hymn

Were You There

v. 1-4

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 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?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Special Music

Via Delorosa

Deb Booth

One lamp is extinguished.

VI. Jesus dies on the cross

John 19:28-37

One lamp is extinguished.

Minister: We remember that we are mortals and that our saving grace lies in this sacrifice of our Lord. O God, lead us from darkness into the light.

All: Put to death our darkness.

Minister: Free us from pride in self-accomplishment.

All: Put to death our dependence upon self.

Minister: Lead us from death to life.

All: Give us hope in your promises.

Minister: We dedicate ourselves to death in Christ.

All: Help us Lord, Jesus.

All lights are turned off.

Special Music

Upon a Sinner's Cross

All table candles are put out.

VII. The Burial of Jesus

John 19:38-42

Special Music

Christus Lux Mea

The paschal candle is extinguished.

A time of extended silence is kept for reflection after which a loud noise is made and the Lord's Prayer is spoken together.

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 and ever. Amen.**

Easter Services

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service – Lighthouse Parking lot

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service in Church

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