

"His Final Steps Led to a Tomb"

February 22, 2023– Ash Wednesday

Opening Hymn#104 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

- 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 of Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2 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, pain, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.
- 3 Calv'ry'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.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb Where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

STAND

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

P: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Confession

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, my words and my actions. I am deeply sorry for my sin and believe that Jesus has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sin, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death. Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

Absolution

P: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I declare unto you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

BE SEATED

Reading of the Passion History

Leader: Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread was approaching, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some sly way to arrest Jesus and kill him. They said,

Congregation: "But not during the feast or the people may riot."

Leader: Jesus said to his disciples,

Men: "As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

Leader: Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So they counted out for him thirty silver coins. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over. On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked,

Congregation: "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

Leader: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

Women: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

Leader: When evening came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table, And he said to them,

Men: "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

Leader: And while they were eating, he said,

Men: "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me."

Leader: They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other,

Congregation: "Surely not I, Lord?"

Leader: "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

Women: Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus told him,

Men: "What you are about to do, do quickly,"

Leader: but no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him. Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night. When he was gone, Jesus said,

Congregation: "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, then God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once."

"My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come."

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Leader: Simon Peter asked him,

Men: "Lord, where are you going?"

Leader: "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later."

Congregation: While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

Leader: "Take and eat, this is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Congregation: Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying,

Leader: "Drink from it, all of you, This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

Women: Also a dispute arose among them as to which of them was considered to be the greatest. Jesus said to them,

Leader: "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactor. But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves? For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? It is not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Congregation: When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Hymn#114 vs 1, 2 & 6 "Christ the Life of All the Living"

- 1 Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death, our foe,
Who, thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe—
Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 2 Thou, ah, thou hast taken on thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon thee, O thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.

6 Thou has suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me.
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.

Sermon..... *Eugene Kock*..... *John 11:1-11, 40-44*
"His Final Steps Led to a Tomb"

Now a certain man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** This Mary, whose brother Lazarus was sick, was the same Mary who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair. **3** So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, saying, "Lord, the one you love is sick!" **4** When Jesus heard it, he said, "This sickness is not going to result in death, but it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." **5** Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. **6** Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed in the place where he was two more days. **7** Then afterwards he said to his disciples, "Let's go back to Judea." **8** The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, recently the Jews were trying to stone you. And you are going back there again?" **9** Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? If anyone walks around during the day, he does not stumble because he sees this world's light. **10** But if anyone walks around at night, he stumbles because there is no light on him." **11** He said this and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to wake him up."

40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" **41** So they took away the stone. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." **43** After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

44 The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, "Loose him and let him go."

Hymn#320 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no pow'r to hide your face.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation.

Offering

Ash Wednesday only – The Service of Holy Communion

STAND

Martin Luther's Evening Prayer

C: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray You to forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Prayer for Peace

C: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn #591....."O Trinity, Most Blessed Light"

- 1 O Trinity, most blessed light,
O Unity of sov'reign might,
As now the fiery sun departs,
Oh, shine your light into our hearts.
- 2 To you our morning song of praise,
To you our evening prayer we raise;
May we your glory evermore
In lowly reverence adore.
- 3 All praise to God the Father be
And to the Son eternally,
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore.

Attendance

If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org, and in the subject line write "Attended" and after that the number of people who watched from your home.