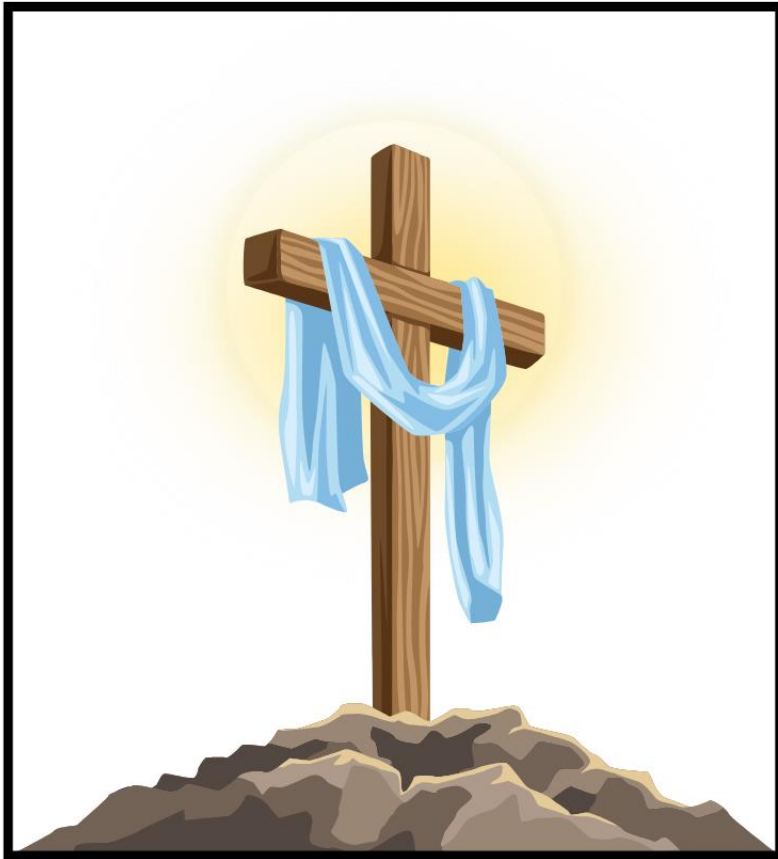


GOOD FRIDAY



April 18, 2025

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

TENEBRAE SERVICE

The service of worship tonight is taken from an early Christian service called "Tenebrae." The word "Tenebrae" is the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows." As the passion story is told, the sanctuary will get progressively darker. At the conclusion of the service, the Christ Candle will be carried out of the sanctuary. The exit of the Candle is to symbolize Christ's death. It remains burning, however, to remind us that even though Christ died, God's love for us did not. The candle is restored to its place, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil. By this single light we all depart the service in silence. The slamming of the Book after the last reading symbolizes for us Christ's death and the sealing of the tomb.

April 18, 2025

7:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

Darkest Hour
Deb Smith, Piano

Raney

Please stand as you are able

GATHERING

Pastor: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All: Amen.

Pastor Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into this world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

All: God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

Pastor: For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

All: Everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light. But all who do what is true come to the light.

Pastor: Come, let us worship in spirit and truth.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your family gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus was betrayed and suffered death upon the cross. Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals as we enter the way of His passion, through Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

You may be seated

FIRST PASSION READING

John 18:1-11

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

No. 351

(Next Page)



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

(First candle is extinguished)

SECOND PASSION READING

John 18:12-18

MUSICAL OFFERING

***Lamb of God*
Adult Choir**

Larson

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side
 To walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God.
 Your gift of love they crucified, they laughed and scorned him as he died

The humble King they named a fraud, and sacrificed the Lamb of God.
 O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.
 O wash me in his precious blood. My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.
 I was so lost I should have died, but you have brought me to your side
 To be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

(Second candle is extinguished)

THIRD PASSION READING

John 18:19-27

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus (Vs. 1&4)

ELW#349



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.

(Third candle is extinguished)

FOURTH PASSION READING

John 18:28-38a

Adult Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
 My riches gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save the death of Christ, my God!
 All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
 Love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

(Fourth candle is extinguished)

FIFTH PASSION READING

John 18:38b-19:18

HYMN

Were You There? (Vs. 1 & 2)



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

(Fifth candle is extinguished)

SIXTH PASSION READING

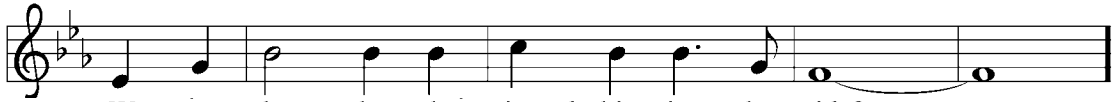
John 19:19-30

HYMN

Were You There? (Vs. 3 & 4)



3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?

(Sixth candle is extinguished)

SEVENTH PASSION READING

John 19:31-37

MUSICAL OFFERING

Theme from Schindler's List
Dan Carson, Violin

Williams

(Seventh candle is extinguished and the Christ Candle removed)

EIGHTH PASSION READING

John 19:38-42

MEDITATION

Pastor Kathy Vitalis Hoffman

HYMN

The Old Rugged Cross

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross,
 2. O that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world,
 3. In that old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,



the em - blem of suf - fer - ing and shame;
 has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;
 a won - drous beau - ty I see,
 its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;



and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
 for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove
 for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,
 then he'll call me some day to my home far a - way,



for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 to bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
 to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.
 where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

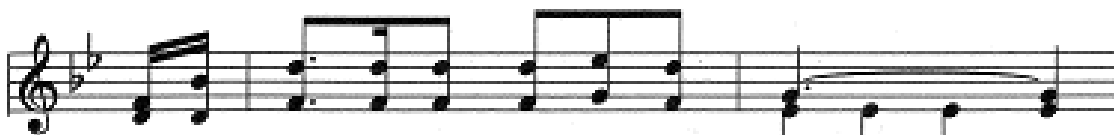
Refrain



So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,
cross, the old rug - ged cross,



till my tro - phies at last I lay down;



I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,
cross, the old rug - ged cross,



and ex - change it some day for a crown.

SILENT MEDITATION

(Christ Candle is returned)

DISMISSAL BLESSING

Pastor: Go in peace. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on the cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever more. **Amen.**

Please depart from this place of worship in silence.

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –

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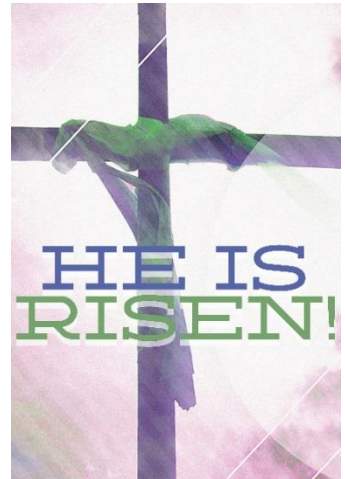
**We welcome Scott Fredericks, Minister of Music Emeritus,
as our guest organist this evening.**

Please join us as we continue our Holy Week journey to Easter:

EASTER EVE: Service held at 5:00 p.m. For our regular Saturday worshippers and anyone else whose schedules make it difficult to worship on Sunday, we have an Easter Eve worship when we will hear the Easter Story and rejoice with the promise of the resurrection.

EASTER SUNDAY: Both the 8:30 and 10:30 services are a festive celebration of the resurrection. From the Gospel of Luke we hear the story where the women proclaimed the good news that had the others wondering and amazed. With our alleluias and songs of praise, we bear witness to the presence of the risen Lord and the power of the gospel.

An ***EASTER BREAKFAST*** of egg bakes and assorted rolls and breads will be available after the 8:30 service, from approximately 9:30 to 10:20 in Fellowship Hall. There will be no Faith Connections.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

www.StMattLutheran.org

30 W. Chestnut St. Hanover, PA 17331

717-637-7101

General Mailbox: 221

info@stmattlutheran.org

Rev. Kathryn Vitalis Hoffman, Lead Pastor, ext 231
pastorkathy@stmattlutheran.org

Rev. Alex Sheppard-Witt, Associate Pastor, ext 229
pastoralex@stmattlutheran.org

Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor, ext 225
nicksong@comcast.net

Deb Smith, Interim Minister of Music, ext 236
dsmith@stmattlutheran.org

Tim Peck, Youth Ministry, ext 230
youth@stmattlutheran.org

Melissa Smith, Children & Family Ministry, ext 232
msmith@stmattlutheran.org

Hannah Chiacchierini, Communications Administrator
hannahc@stmattlutheran.org



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