



*Bethania Moravian
Church*



Good Friday Lovefeast

March 29, 2024



Prelude *Stabat Mater Dolorosa*
G. B. Pergolesi

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

Come Let Us Sing the Song of Songs

Come, let us sing the song of songs,
With hearts and voices swell the strain,
The homage which to Christ belongs:
Worthy the Lamb, for He was slain!

Slain to redeem us by His blood,
To cleanse from every sinful stain;
And make us kings and priests to God;
Worthy the Lamb, for He was slain!

Welcome

Prayer

Serving the Lovefeast

Christ the Life of All the Living

Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for us once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through your suffering, death, and merit,
Life eternal we inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
Dearest Jesus, unto you.



You have suffered great affliction
And have borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion:
Our atonement full and free.
Lord, you chose to be tormented
That our doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
Dearest Jesus, unto you.

Lord, for all that bought your pardon,
For the sorrows deep and sore,
For the anguish in the garden,
We will thank you ever more,
Thank you for the groaning, sighing,
For the victory of your dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
Praise you ever more on high.

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

O sacred head, now wounded
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory
And blessing you have known!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I claim you as my own.



What language shall I borrow
To thank you dearest friend,
For this, your dying sorrow,
Your mercies without end?
Lord, make me yours forever,
A loyal servant true,
And let me never, never
Outlive my love for you.

My Redeemer, Overwhelmed

My Redeemer, overwhelmed with anguish,
Went to Olivet for me.
There he kneels, his heart does heave and
languish
In a bitter agony.
Fear and horror seize his soul and senses,
For the hour of darkness now commences;
Ah, how doth he weep and groan
Our rebellion to atone.

Blessing

*Come, Lord Jesus, our Guest to be,
And bless these gifts bestowed by Thee,
Bless our dear ones everywhere,
And keep them in Thy loving care. Amen.*



Anthems *Draw Me To the Cross*
The Bethania Choir
Matthews and Larson

My Faith Looks Up To Thee
Arr. Jason W. Krug
The Bethania Bell Choir
Gretchen Chapman, *Piano*

Collecting the Lovfeast

The Savior's Blood and Righteousness

The Savior's blood and righteousness
My beauty is, my glorious dress;
Thus well arrayed, I need not fear,
When in His presence I appear.

The holy, spotless, Lamb of God,
Who freely gave His life and blood
For all my numerous sins to atone,
I for my Lord and Savior own.

Therefore, my Savior's blood and death
Are here the substance of my faith;
And shall remain, when I'm called hence,
My only hope and confidence.

Lord Jesus Christ, all praise to Thee,
That Thou didst deign a man to be,
And for each soul which Thou hast made
Hast an eternal ransom paid.



Thy incarnation, wounds, and death
I will confess while I have breath,
Till I shall see Thee face to face,
Arrayed with Thy righteousness.

Jesus Love Unbounded

Jesus' love unbounded
none can e'er explain,
yet we, his disciples,
often cause him pain;
even they forget him
who have seen his face;
even they still grieve him
who enjoy his grace.

While we your past dealings
gratefully review,
we're assured your mercies
are each morning new;
pardon our transgressions,
hear our earnest cry;
us in soul and body
heal and sanctify.

All our days, O Jesus,
hallow unto you;
may our lives be given
in your service true;
let us all experience,
to the end of days,
your abiding presence
and your loving grace.



Meditation

The Rev. Joe Moore

Readings for Holy Week

pgs. 115-122

(The hymns shall be omitted from the readings)

Closing Hymn

Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand

Ten thousand times ten thousand
in sparkling raiment bright,
the armies of the ransomed saints
throng up the steeps of light!
'Tis finished, all is finished,
their fight with death and sin.
Fling open wide the golden gates
and let the victors in!

What rush of halleluias
fills all the earth and sky!
What ringing of a thousand harps
bespeaks the triumph night!
O day, for which creation
and all its tribes were made!
O joy, for all its former woes
a thousand fold repaid!

Bring near your great salvation,
O Lamb for sinners slain;
fill up the roll of your elect,
then take your pow'r and reign!
Appear, Desire of nations,
your exiles long for home;
show in the heav'n your promised sign;
then, Prince and Savior, come.



‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil.

- John 3: 16-19

Tonight, we grieve, we grieve for Jesus’ death on the cross, we grieve in the knowledge that Jesus submitted himself to the cross and to death for us and for our salvation, we grieve in the knowledge that he died so that we might live. Tonight, we grieve, feeling that nothing “good” has happened. Tonight, we grieve because it seems like the light has gone out of the world. At least for now. Yet we pray that we may find hope in our grief and light in the darkness. For the light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot, the darkness will not overcome it. And that is the *good news* on this Good Friday.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word *was* God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

- John 1: 1-5, 14