

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Good Friday April 15, 2022 7:00 pm

PRELUDE "Jesu, Meine Freude" J.S. Bach

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God, **People: who redeems us from sin and death.**

Pastor: For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even

death on a cross.

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Like the Disciples of Christ, like his mother, like the other women, and even like those who were merely curious, we are gathered at the cross in this somber hour. We are here to meditate on the meaning of the cross, to contemplate the height and depth of the divine love, and to resolve that what Christ did for us will not have been done in vain. Amen.

*HYMN #216 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Forgive us, Lord, for thinking that your grace is cheap, for using a cross as a mere trinket, for treating lightly the name of the One who died for us, for being calloused to human cruelty; for being nonchalant about injustice, for thinking that sacrifice is obsolete. Forgive us, Lord, for taking salvation lightly. Amen.

Leader: Let us in silence confess our own personal sins. (Silence)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Unison)

God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Amen.

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION

Pastor: Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind: for the hungry and homeless, the destitute and the oppressed, and all who suffer persecution, doubt, and despair, for the sorrowful and bereaved, for prisoners and captives and those in mortal danger, that God will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of God's love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

Silence.

People: Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer, hear the cry of those in misery and need. In their afflictions show them your mercy, and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them, for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN #223

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

- I. Jesus experienced the darkness of betrayal. The first candle is extinguished.
- II. Jesus experienced the darkness of desertion. The second candle is extinguished.

Solo "Ah, Holy Jesus" Guest viola, Zijin Yang

John Ferguson

III. Jesus experienced the mockery of a trial.

The third candle is extinguished.

IV. Jesus experienced the darkness of humiliation. *The fourth candle is extinguished.*

Choral Anthem "Stabat Mater Dolorosa" Bethany Choir

Giovanni Pergolesi (1710-1736)

Translation: At the Cross her station keeping, stood the mournful Mother weeping, close to her Son to the last.

- V. Jesus experienced the darkness of the crucifixion. *The fifth candle is extinguished.*
- VI. Jesus experienced agony of the spirit.

 The sixth candle is extinguished.

Choral Solo "Were You There?" Composed by 19th century African Slaves (choral setting)

VII. Darkness

The seventh candle is extinguished.

"Revelations of Saint John the Divine" (for organ and tape)

Larry King

Revelation 1:8 - I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 6:12-17 - And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Revelation 21:3B-4 -- And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

All depart in silence.

*Those who are able, please stand

Bethany Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming Christian family who worships God and nurtures spiritual growth through friendship, learning, music and serving others.

Bethany's phone number: 663-3000 ~ Bethany's website: www.bethanyrochester.org