



Maundy Thursday Worship with Service of Shadows April 14, 2022



Prelude

“Ah, Holy Jesus” (Brahms)

Call to Worship

Video Liturgy: “Remembering”

Hymn #507 “Come to the Table of Grace”

Prayer of Common Confession

Ever-present God, on this Holy Thursday night,
our whole world is engulfed in shadows
as we remember the story of Jesus’ death.
We confess that we want to push the fast-forward button on this familiar story
because it hurts so much.

It hurts to think of the betrayal and arrest of Jesus.
It hurts to imagine Jesus abandoned and suffering on the cross
with only a faithful few watching him breathe his last breath.
It hurts to watch your light overtaken by the shadows of the world.

But we must find our place in this crucifixion story and feel the pain that is there:
The pain of the world, of faithless decisions; of betrayal; of injustice.
Jesus entered that pain out of faithfulness to you and to us,
to witness to the Truth that is Justice, Wholeness and Love.

Strengthen us with your courage;
offer glimpses of hope in the shadows of death;
let us know you are present with us here in this moment of pain;
now as always.

Silently offer personal prayers of confession ...

Message for Communion Preparation

“I No Longer Pray for Peace” by Ann Weams

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn #206 "This Is the Night"

The Service of Shadows

FIRST OF THE SHADOWS

John 8: 12 -21; Jesus the Light of the World

Extinguish the first candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

SECOND OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:1-12 Jesus is betrayed

Extinguish the second candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

THIRD OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:13-18; 25-27 Peter denies Jesus

Extinguish the third candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

FOURTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:28 and John 19: 1-7 Jesus in Robe and Crown of Thorns

Extinguish the fourth candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

FIFTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19:16b-27 Jesus on the Cross

Extinguish the fifth candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

SIXTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19: 28-30 Jesus Dies

Extinguish the sixth candle

Response: Hymn #678 "Our Darkness Is Never Darkness In Your Sight"

SEVENTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19: 38-42 Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Hymn #228 "Were You There?"

Postlude

"O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (Bach)

This Evening's Worship Leaders:

Rev. Rich Gelson, Pastor, Pilgrim PC

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel, Pastor, FPCE

Music: Gloria Snyder and Bud Martin

Cortney Selander, Social Media

Video Liturgy by Freebridge Media

I No Longer Pray for Peace

On the edge of war, one foot already in,
I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.
I pray that stone hearts will turn
to tenderheartedness,
and evil intentions will turn
to mercifulness,
and all the soldiers already deployed
will be snatched out of harm's way,
and the whole world will be
astounded onto its knees.
I pray that all the "God talk"
will take bones,
and stand up and shed
its cloak of faithlessness,
and walk again in its powerful truth.
I pray that the whole world might
sit down together and share
its bread and its wine.
Some say there is no hope,
but then I've always applauded the holy fools
who never seem to give up on
the scandalousness of our faith:
that we are loved by God.....
that we can truly love one another.
I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.

Poem by Ann Weems, a Presbyterian elder and poet
written for Ash Wednesday 2003

By God's grace and through our faith,
may we rise again together on Sunday morning ...