

GOOD FRIDAY



*All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.
We have left God's paths to follow our own.
Yet the Lord laid on him
the sins of us all.*
Isaiah 53: 6

WEST LAWN UMC

APRIL 18, 2025 | 12:00 PM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN #298 - *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 — Matthew 26:20-25 (NRSV)

Hymn #290 - *"Go to Dark Gethsemane"* (vs. 1 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 2 — Matthew 26:31-35 (NRSV)

Hymn #292 - *"What Wondrous Love Is This"* (vs. 1 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 3 — Mark 14:32-42 (NRSV)

Hymn #292 - *"What Wondrous Love Is This"* (vs. 2 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 4 — Matthew 26:47-52 (NRSV)

Hymn #290 - *"Go to Dark Gethsemane"* (vs. 2 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 5 — Luke 22:54-62 (NRSV)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"My Song Is Love Unknown" (Brooks Daniel-Hoste)

SCRIPTURE READING 6 — John 18:33-38a (NRSV)

Hymn #288 — *"Were You There"* (vs. 1 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 7 — Matthew 27:20-26 (NRSV)

Hymn #288 - *"Were You There"* (vs. 2 only)

SCRIPTURE READING 8 — Mark 15:16-20 (NRSV)

"The Crucifixion"

SCRIPTURE READING 9 — Psalm 22:1-21 (NRSV)

Silent Meditation

LITANY — Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

Hymn #288 — *"Were You There"* (vss. 3-5)

INVITATION TO REFLECTION

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Tom Ebersole

Pastor Chris Hardy

Adult Choir, Christopher Rodgers, Director

Carolann Schneiderhan, soloist

Christopher Rodgers, organ & piano



15 Woodside Avenue

West Lawn, PA 19609

610-678-5611

office@westlawnumc.org

www.westlawnumc.org

CONDEMED

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 27:22-25 (NRSV)

22 Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” 23 Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

24 So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” 25 Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” 26 So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

+++++

REFLECTION:

What was it like listening to the crowd? Were you annoyed? Can you sympathize with Pilate wanting to just give in? In what ways do we give in and take the easy and convenient road even if it means being part of injustice?

+++++

ACTION:

As you **wash your hands** in the basin, think of the areas in your life where you act like Pilate – and participate in injustice because it’s easier than fighting for what is right.

FINISHED

SCRIPTURE: Luke 23:44-49 (NRSV)

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 while the sun’s light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. 47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” 48 And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. 49 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance watching these things.

+++++

REFLECTION:

Spend some time imagining you are standing in front of the cross with the disciples... Can you feel the presence of death? Can you feel the heaviness of despair? Can you feel the sorrow, emptiness, and confusion?

+++++

ACTION:

Extinguish one candle as a symbol of Jesus dying.

CRUCIFIED

SCRIPTURE: Luke 23:33-34 (NRSV)

33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

+++++

REFLECTION:

Jesus' talked a lot about loving enemies and forgiving others. But here at the cross he goes beyond words and ideals and teaches us with an example with the nail digging into his flesh and the hammer hovering... He offers forgiveness.

So, in your life, who are the soldiers with nails and hammers that you could extend forgiveness to?

+++++

ACTION:

Write your name on the card provided. That name represents you, your original sin, and all the sins you commit knowingly and unknowingly. ***Attach it to the cross with the nail and hammer provided.***

PLEASE LEAVE THE SANCTUARY IN SILENCE

*Offering plates will be found in the Narthex,
for those who wish to make an offering to the Lord.*