

TULLY UNITED COMMUNITY CHURCH

March 28, 2024 6:45 PM

The Rev. Richard G. Reed – Pastor



MAUNDY THURSDAY

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Tully United Community Church would like to acknowledge with respect the Onondaga Nation, Fire-keepers of the Haudenosaunee, the indigenous peoples on whose ancestral lands our buildings now stand.

-WE COME BEFORE GOD IN HUMILITY-

GATHERING IN THE QUIET

PRELUDE

GREETING

Celebrant: Hear the words of Jesus: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

(A deacon will light the seven candles in the candelabra during the Centering Hymn)

SILENT MEDITATION (Listen in the silence for the still, small voice of God's presence.)

RESPONSORIAL AND PRAYER

Liturgist: Come to the upper room,

People: where Jesus shared his body and blood.

Liturgist: Come to Gethsemane,

People: where he prayed and was betrayed.

Liturgist: Come to the courts of justice,

People: where the Righteous One was found guilty.

Liturgist: Come to the hill outside Jerusalem,

People: where the innocent suffered and died.

Liturgist: Come, let us bow down in awe,

People: for what happened there was done for us.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Eternal God of mercy, we gather in awesome wonder to behold your loving gift of Jesus Christ, who, coming to bring the world to wholeness, was broken by it. Yet by his death we live and know your unbreakable love. As we gather to remember Christ's gift of fellowship at table, and to recall our frail failings of devotion, pierce our hearts with a conviction of our own betrayals, reassure us of your abiding presence and transform us by the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-WE ARE SHOWN A NEW EXAMPLE-

THE GOSPEL

+ JOHN 13:1-15 +

Liturgist: Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus

said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

FOOT WASHING (during the singing of the hymn)

(There will be two to three people to have their feet washed. We will need one folding chair. There will be a basin to catch water. After the foot washing, one or two deacons will move the basin out of the way and fold up the chair and put it to the side.)

HYMN

"JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE"

#432

**Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

**1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain**

**2. Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away. Refrain**

**3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love,
all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain**

**4. Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves,
This is the way we should live with you. Refrain**

**5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. Refrain**

Liturgist: After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

RESPONSE

Celebrant: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Exodus 12:1-14

Liturgist: A reading from the Book of Exodus. The First Passover is instituted.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

PSALTER

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Resp. 2

#837

R  The cup of salvation I will raise, and call on the name of the Lord. 

Liturgist: I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

and has inclined his ear to me, whenever I called.

People: The snares of death encompassed me;

the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

Liturgist: Then I called on the name of the LORD:

People: "O LORD, I beseech you, save my life!" R

Liturgist: What shall I return to the LORD for all my benefits?

**People: I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,**

Liturgist: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

People: Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

Liturgist: O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid.

You have loosed my bonds.

**People: I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.**

Liturgist: I will pay my vows to the LORD

in the presence of all his people,

**People: in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**

Praise the Lord. R

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Let us pray to the Eternal God, as Christ prayed for his disciples.

Liturgist: Heavenly Father, as you are one, may we who are Christ's Body also be one. Let the Church in this place reflect your glory to the world. (Silence)

May we and all Christian people be united in your love. Let us recognize in each other, and in all people, your image in which we are made. (Silence)

May your name be manifested in us. May we be sanctified in your truth. May your love be in us. (Silence)

May we be united with those who suffer for their faith in your Son. Let us be ready to meet the cost of following him. (Silence)

Bring us all, through the death and burial of your only begotten Son, to the joy of his resurrection. (Silence)

Send us out into the world in Christ's name. Let us follow his example, serving others as we would serve you. (Silence)

Celebrant: Eternal God, accept the prayer of your Church on this day when Christ, our high priest, gave himself to us; who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you. We meet in Christ's name: So let us share his peace with one another.

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

C: Let us share signs and words of peace with our neighbors.



-WE SHARE THE LORD'S SUPPER-

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters, we are called to be Children of the Day and not of the night.

Liturgist: Let us approach the throne of grace that we may receive mercy.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins before God. Let us pray:

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more into your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ the Light of the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world, through him might be saved. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, you are forgiven.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

By Scott Cervas, pastor at Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church (Lexington, KY)

*Celebrant: The parade is in the past...
the hosannas have hushed...
and Jesus has retreated to an upper room
to quietly dine with his disciples.
We've been invited to the table
to share in the mystery
of broken bread...
of a cup of wine...
and of feet humbly washed,
challenging us to eat, drink, and remember...together,
and to love and serve one another
just as Jesus loves and serves us.*

*We've been invited to the table
to see Judas get up from his seat
and walk out the door...
challenging us to look into our hearts,
and glimpse the signs of our own acts of betrayal.*

*So Christ invites us to take our place at this table...
where we sense our brokenness
and experience God's grace
all at once.*

LITURGY FOR COMMUNION

Responses can be found in the hymnal, #15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty (almighty God), creator of heaven and earth.
From the earth you bring forth bread and create the fruit of the vine.
You formed us in your image, delivered us from captivity,
and made covenant to be our sovereign God.

You fed us manna in the wilderness,
and gave us grapes as evidence of the promised land.
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
When we turned aside from your way and abused your gifts,
you gave us in him your crowning gift.
Emptying himself that our joy might be full,
he fed the hungry, healed the sick,
ate with scorned and forgotten, washed his disciples' feet,
and gave a holy meal as a pledge of his abiding presence.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

CHORUS

"Do This"

Kerr-Whitt

**Do this in remembrance of me: this broken life, your lives out-pouring.
Do this, do this, my friends! As I now live, so you must live!**

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Lord has taught us, we are bold to pray, saying:

**“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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.”**

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant: The body of Christ, the bread of life.

The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

*The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that
Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with
thanksgiving.*

**(Please allow the choir to come forward first. Then come forward take the bread and eat.
Then move to the cup, drink it, and put the empty in the basket.)**

SONG DURING COMMUNION “May We Remember” Kerr-Whitt
As we eat this bread, O Christ, may we remember.
As we drink this cup may we now be renewed
In the love and in the hope of Your life poured out for us!
May we remember, Lord! May we remember!

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus said, 'I am the vine, and you are the branches. They who abide in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.' Almighty God, source of all love, whose only-begotten son, on the night of his betrayal, gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them: write this commandment in our hearts; and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

****HYMN**

"INTO THE WOODS MY MASTER WENT"

INSERT

**1. Into the woods my Master went, Clean forspent, forspent,
Into the woods my Master came, Forspent with love and shame.
But the olives they were not blind to Him.
The little grey leaves were kind to Him,
The thorn tree had a mind to Him,
When into the woods He came.**

**2. Out of the woods my Master came And he was well content;
Out of the woods my Master came, Content with death and shame.
When death and shame would woo Him last,
From under the trees they drew Him last,
'Twas on a tree they slew Him -- last
When out of the woods He came.**



-WE EXPERIENCE THE DARKNESS OF TENEBRAE-

SCRIPTURE LESSONS AND CANDLES

(The Liturgist will read each scripture and a deacon will extinguish a candle after each reading.)

Mark 14:26-42

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

CHORAL ANTHEM

"May We Remain Awake With You"

Kerr-Whitt

The first candle is extinguished

(The lights in the sanctuary should be turned out.)

Mark 14:43-50

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." All of them deserted him and fled.

The second candle is extinguished

Mark 14:51-72

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

The third candle is extinguished

Mark 15:1-5

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

The fourth candle is extinguished

Mark 15:6-15

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

The fifth candle is extinguished

Mark 15:16-20

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

The sixth candle is extinguished

Mark 15:21-32

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

The seventh candle is extinguished

CHORAL ANTHEM

"And No Bird Sang"

D. Wagner

Laura Currie Chancel Choir

Mark 15:33-37

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

(The Christ candle is moved out of view and a loud noise will be made, signifying Christ's death.)

(Here a deacon will take the Christ candle out of the sanctuary by the organ door. After a moment, the deacon will slam the baptistry door. The Christ candle does not return to the sanctuary.)

BENEDICTUS

*Celebrant: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.*

*Through his holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.*

*He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.*

*This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.*

*You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. (brief silence)*

Celebrant: Christ, for our sake, became obedient unto death;

People: Even unto the death of the cross.

HYMN

“GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE” vv. 1-3

#290

**1. Go To Dark Gethsemane, Ye That Feel The Tempter’s Power;
Your Redeemer’s Conflict See, Watch With Him One Bitter Hour,
Turn Not From His Grievs Away; Learn Of Jesus Christ To Pray.**

**2. See Him At The Judgment Hall, Beaten, Bound, Reviled, Arraigned;
O The Wormwood And The Gall! O The Pangs His Soul Sustained!
Shun Not Suffering, Shame, Or Loss; Learn Of Christ To Bear The Cross.**

**3. Calvary’s Mournful Mountain Climb; There, Adoring At His Feet,
Mark That Miracle Of Time, God’s Own Sacrifice Complete.
“It Is Finished!” Hear Him Cry; Learn Of Jesus Christ To Die.**



STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH

Celebrant: They divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

(Here the Deacons will strip away all the regular trappings of the sanctuary including: The altar cross, candles [remember to use a candle snuffer to douse them], the Bible, and the altar cloth {2 deacons}, the chalice and paten [bread plate] and any cloths on the communion table {2 deacons}, the Lenten banner, and the box containing the "Alleluia" banner {1 deacon}, the paraments on the lectern and on the pulpit {1 or 2 deacons}. These can all be put on the first row of chairs or on the floor in front of them and then moved after the congregation has left; and it really only needs to be 2 or 3 deacons working in tandem.

The Stripping of the Church takes place during the reading of the Isaiah passage below and is done with purpose and disregard for the reading. When it is time to remove the pulpit paraments, it should be done deliberately and without hesitation.

As the pastor is walking down the center aisle at the end of the reading, the lights in the sanctuary should all be turned out except the upward cupola lights.

SONG OF THE SUFFERING SERVANT – ISAIAH 53:3-9

*He was despised and rejected by men,
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.*

*Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted.
But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.*

*All we like sheep have gone astray;
We have turned, every one, to his own way;
And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.*

*He was oppressed and He was afflicted,
Yet He opened not His mouth;
He was led as a lamb to the slaughter,
And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
So He opened not His mouth.*

*He was taken from prison and from judgment,
And who will declare His generation?
For He was cut off from the land of the living;
For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.*

*And they made His grave with the wicked—
But with the rich at His death,
Because He had done no violence,
Nor was any deceit in His mouth.*

-WE DEPART IN SILENT CONTEMPLATION-

DEPARTURE

(THERE IS NO BENEDICTION, BECAUSE THE EVENTS OF THIS NIGHT DO NOT CONCLUDE UNTIL EASTER MORNING. YOU ARE INVITED TO REMAIN TO PRAY, OR PLEASE LEAVE THE DARKENED CHURCH IN SILENCE)

(After all or most are gone from the sanctuary, deacons can move all the appointments out of the sanctuary. If anyone remains for prayer, of course work should be done in silence in order not to disturb. Thank you!)



May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and for ever.