



GOOD FRIDAY  
*Hail, King of the Jews*

DEPTHS OF LOVE WORSHIP SERIES

**Good Friday**

**March 29, 2024**

**St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Ann Rodewald, Organist      Kathy Jurk, Choir Director

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

*Were You There?*



## Call to Worship:

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.

**That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

## Let us pray:

**Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we, who glory in this death for our salvation, may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn: (#284)**

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

## Old Testament Scripture Reading:

*Isaiah 52:13-53:12 ESV*

*Behold, my servant shall act wisely;  
he shall be high and lifted up,  
and shall be exalted.*

*As many were astonished at you—  
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,  
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—  
so shall he sprinkle many nations.*

*Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,  
for that which has not been told them they see,  
and that which they have not heard they understand.*

*Who has believed what he has heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.*

*He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*

*Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.  
But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;*

*upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds 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;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he opened not his mouth.*

*By oppression and judgment he was taken away;  
and as for his generation, who considered  
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people?  
And they made his grave with the wicked  
and with a rich man in his death,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.*

*Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;  
he has put him to grief;  
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,  
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;  
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.  
Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.*

### **Prayer of Confession:**

God of love, we remember today all that our blessed Lord endured for us. We remember how Jesus was betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men ...

We remember today that it was one of your own familiar friends who betrayed you, and we know that there is nothing that so breaks the heart as the disloyalty of one whom we call friend.

Grant that we may not betray you and save us from the cowardice that would disown you when it is hard to be true to you; from the disloyalty that betrays you in the hour when you need someone to stand by you; from the fickleness that blows hot and cold in its devotion; from the fair-weather friendship that, when things are difficult or dangerous, makes us ashamed to show whose we are and whom we serve.

Lord Jesus, help us to remember the lengths to which your love was ready to go; that having loved your own, you loved them to the very end; a love which none can be greater, a love that lays down its life for its friends; that it was while the people were yet enemies that you died for them.

Help us to remember, that the crucified Lord is the Risen Lord; that the Cross has become the Crown. So, grant unto us, to trust in his love and to live in his presence; that we may share in his glory. This we ask for your love's sake. **Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading:**

*Mark 14:32-42 ESV*

*And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."*

**Message:**

*God Was Oddly Silent*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

**Holy Communion with the Lord's Prayer:**

Jesus came into the world, not to judge it, but to save it. We are grateful for God's infinite love, and we celebrate with all of creation, the saving work, of our Suffering Savior.

On the night before he was nailed to the merciless cross, Jesus shared his last meal with his friends. He took the bread, he broke it, and he gave thanks, and then he passed it among them saying,

*This is my body which is broken for you. Eat it and remember me.*

He took the wine, and he gave thanks, and then he passed it among them saying, *This is my blood which is shed for you. Drink it and remember me.*

So we too take, and eat and drink, and we remember:

There is no greater love, than this sacrifice which you, Jesus, made for us; when we come to this meal, O Lord, we are reminded that it is the death and darkness in us, that drove you to the cross; And so we come with no pride, no sense of entitlement; we come humbly and with deep gratitude;

For it is you alone that has made a place for us at your table. **Amen.**

As you awaken us to your presence by your Spirit, may we know this bread and wine, to be your body and blood; As you embrace us now, by your Spirit, may we be changed, so that together we become the embodiment of your love, of your life to the world. And so together we pray the Lord's Prayer:

**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.**

**Offering:**

Offering, tithes and gifts can be made before or after worship in the offering baskets/plates at the welcome area of the church. St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through the website (stmstjucc.org).

**Offertory Music:**

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

~ *The offering is brought to the altar* ~

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

For the very life you gave, which granted us new life, we give thanks. May these offerings, tithes and gifts be used to offer new life to those in need. *Amen.*

**Hymn of Sending: (#260)**

*The Old Rugged Cross*

**Benediction:**

May you leave this place with the assurance of forgiveness that is made possible through the sacrifice of Christ. Go forth in hope and anticipation of the ultimate victory that comes with Easter. Go forth! Be Easter people! Loving and serving Him in all that you do, all that you are, and all that you will be, we pray. *Amen.*

**Postlude:**

*Olive's Brow*



Join us for Easter Sunday Worship: St. James, 9:00am with Communion  
St. Mark's, 10:30am with Communion  
Sunday School 9—10am at Both Churches

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: [www.stmstjucc.org](http://www.stmstjucc.org)

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)