



Jesus on Cross

Sadao Watanabe
Japan (1913-1996)

Color woodblock print on paper

Sadao Watanabe was a Japanese artist best known for his woodblock prints that weave together biblical imagery with traditional Japanese folk art known as mingei. Orphaned at a young age, Watanabe converted to Christianity as a teenager and, like many converts from the compassionate teachings of Buddhism, was drawn to an image of a God who suffered alongside humanity (Sacred Art Meditations). Watanabe's use of color and subtle expression convey this compassionate and comforting presence of God.

This particular image (one of many prints Watanabe made of the Crucifixion) depicts Jesus hanging upon a Tau (t-shaped) cross, rendered in deep red as an allusion to the pain and suffering of the Passion. The rich blue background is broken up by three broad stripes of alternating gray and white, representing the mounting storm clouds that brought "darkness over the land" (Mt. 27:45) while alluding to the enduring presence of the Holy Trinity. Two figures kneel in prayer at the foot of the cross – most likely his mother Mary and the "beloved disciple," recalling the powerful moment when Jesus pronounces them a new kind of family, united through faith (Jn. 19:26-27). The two figures are drawn closer to Jesus and together by the flowing waters that emanate from the cross, now presented as the Tree of Life from which the Living Waters of salvation flow (Jn. 4:10-26, Rev. 21:6, 22:1)

The print recalls the bloody horror of the Crucifixion, yes, but like so much of Watanabe's art, it also celebrates how "divine love triumphs over hate in a scene of surprising harmony and tranquility" (John Kohan).

Easter

Sunday, March 31
at GaryChurch

Worship

9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
in the Sanctuary

9 a.m. service will be livestreamed
and recorded at garychurch.org.

Easter Egg Hunt

10:15 a.m.

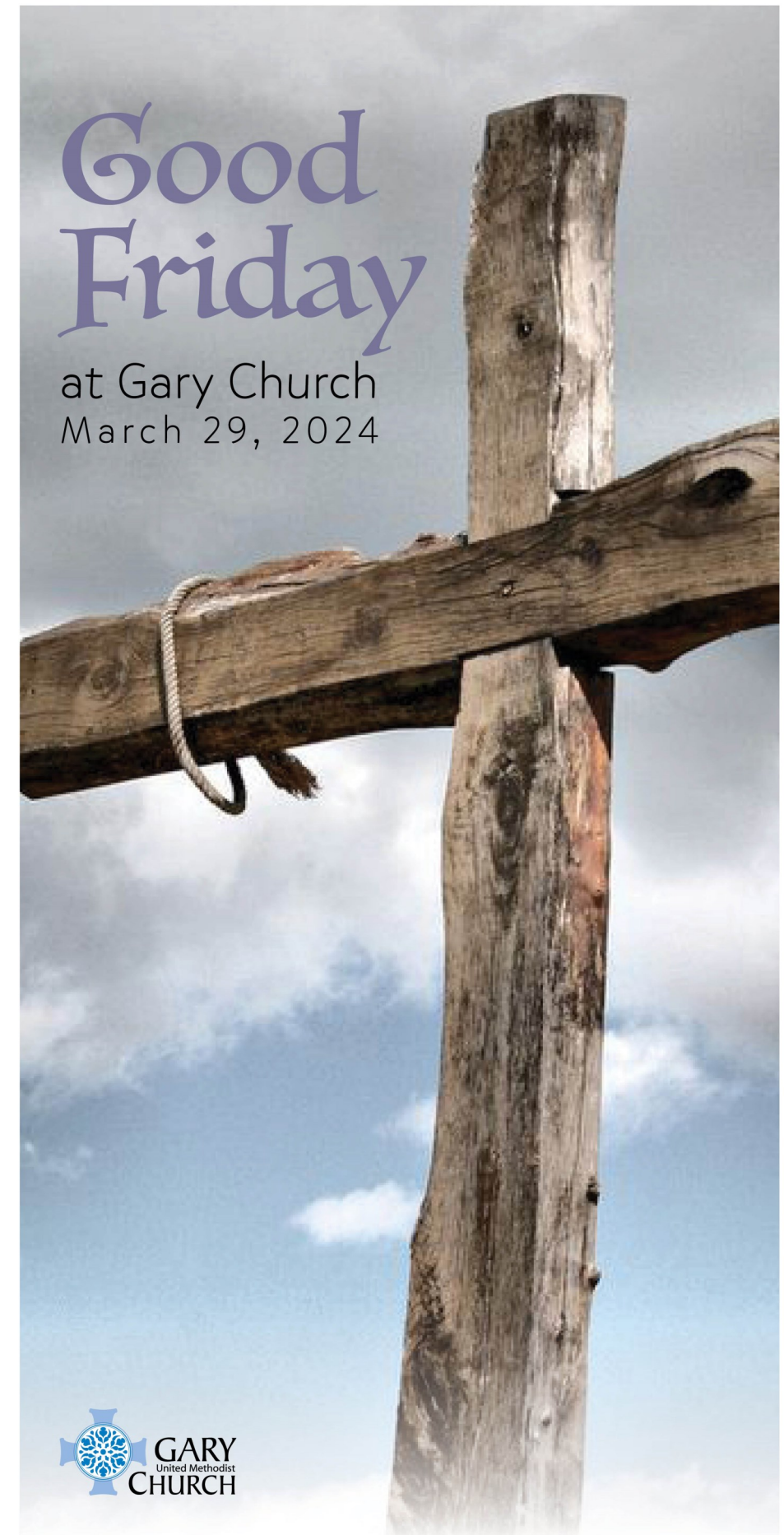
Grab your baskets and head to
Memorial Park for a traditional
Easter Egg Hunt.



224 North Main Street, Wheaton, IL 60187 • 630-668-3100 • garychurch.org

Good Friday

at Gary Church
March 29, 2024



Gary United Methodist Church		
Good Friday		
March 29, 2024, 7 p.m.		
<i>*The asterisks indicate a time when you are invited to stand in body or spirit.</i>		
<i>Congregation reads bold print.</i>		
Gathering	Enter in silence	
*Greeting	Dan Lee	
Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.		
That we might die to sins and live for 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.		
*Hymn	When I Survey the Wondrous Cross	Hymnal 298
First Reading	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Steve Novy
Responsive Scripture	Psalm 22	Hymnal 752, .R. 1 Christy Grace
Second Reading	Hebrews 10:16-25	Emily Bagnall
*Hymn	Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross	Hymnal 301
Proclamation of the Passion Story		
John 18:1-12		Charlie Castino
John 18:13-27		Maggie Bebar
John 18:28-40		Helena Alvarez
John 19:1-16		Nick Moreland
John 19:17-30		Emma Moreland
John 19:31-42		Gus Foster
Reflection	Pastor Daniel Cochran	
Musical Reflection	Wood and Nails	
Watts Wardell Cunningham		
Cindi Copeland, Jennifer Whiting, Kevin Lange		

Offertory	Via Dolorosa Billy Sprague and Niles Borop Lynda Goldberg; Kevin Lange, piano
Silent Meditation	
During Silent Meditation and The Reproaches, you are invited to come forward to kneel and pray at the altar rail.	
The Reproaches: Christ’s Lament Against His Faithless Church	
Pastor Chris Pierson, Carey Williams Bebar Adrianna Hart, Colton Hart, Anise Foster, Pastor Fred Kelsey	
O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	
I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna; I brought you through times of persecution and of renewal and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	
I made you branches of my vineyard and gave you the water of salvation, but when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar and gall and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	
I went before you in a pillar of cloud, but you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I brought you to a land of freedom and prosperity, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	
I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have hanged me on the cross.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	
My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a servant, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom.	
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?	

I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes, but you scatter and deny and abandon me. I sent the Spirit of truth to lead you, but you close your hearts to guidance.
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
I called you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing. I prayed that you all may be one, but you continue to quarrel and divide.
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
I grafted you into the tree of my chosen people Israel, but you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt.
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters. I was hungry but you gave me no food, thirsty but you gave me no drink. I was a stranger but you did not welcome me, naked but you did not clothe me, sick and in prison but you did not visit me.
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
A brief silence follows.
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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
Musical Meditation
And Can It Be? text, Charles Wesley, music, Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir; Jennifer Whiting, conductor; Kevin Lange, piano
*Dismissal
May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you, now and for ever. Amen.
*Going Forth
Please leave the Sanctuary in silence.