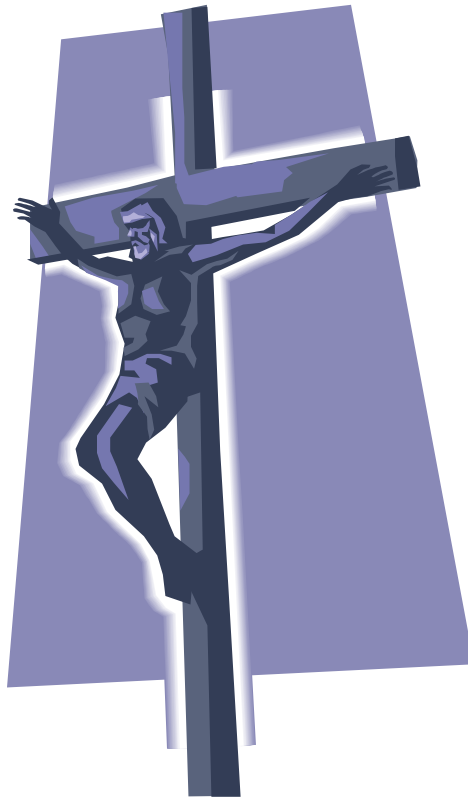


THE WAY OF THE CROSS



Wednesday of Holy Week

March 27, 2024

7:30pm

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool

Route 25a and Sunken Meadow Road, 4 Trescott Path

Fort Salonga, New York 11768

www.abidingpresencechurch.org

email: abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com

(631) 269-6454

The People of God, Ministers

The Reverend Paul Egensteiner, Bishop

The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Toby Tobias, Pastoral Associate

Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon

Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon

Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music

Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist

Mr. Greg Johnson, Video Production

Ms. Diann Lastihenos, Preschool Director



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

+The Way of the Cross+

Stations of the Cross

INTRODUCTION

The Way of the Cross is a devotion adapted from a custom observed by Christian pilgrims who said prayers in Jerusalem at a series of places in that city associated with the passion of Jesus.

Traditionally, there have been as many as fourteen stations. Of these, eight are based directly on events of scripture and are included in this rite.

Each station includes sentences and responses, scripture verses, a period for meditation, a prayer, and a hymn.

OPENING PRAYERS

L In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

L Lord, have mercy.

C **Christ, have mercy.**

L Lord, have mercy.

C 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,
forever and ever. Amen

L We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

C in whom is our salvation, our life, and resurrection.

L Let us pray.

Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may remember with joy the mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

FIRST STATION: JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

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 spoke to the crowd: "What do you wish me to do with the man you call the king of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So, after flogging Jesus, Pilate handed him over to be crucified.

Silent Meditation

L God did not spare his own Son,

C but delivered him up for us all.

HYMN 773

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812–1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD

Irregular

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at the hands of sinners and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

SECOND STATION: JESUS TAKES UP HIS CROSS

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

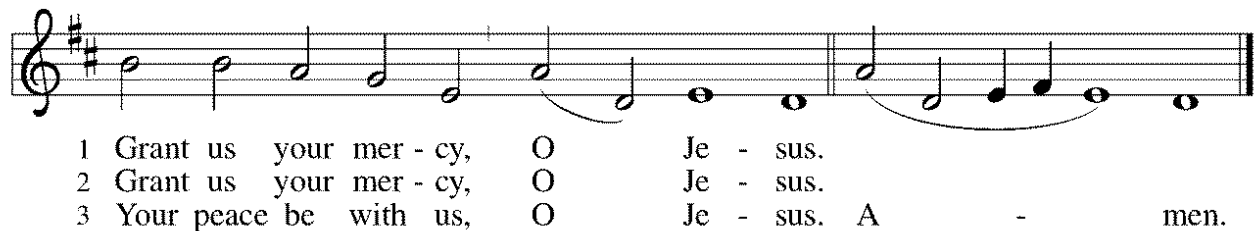
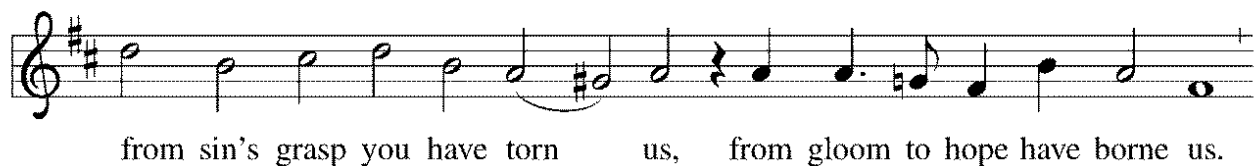
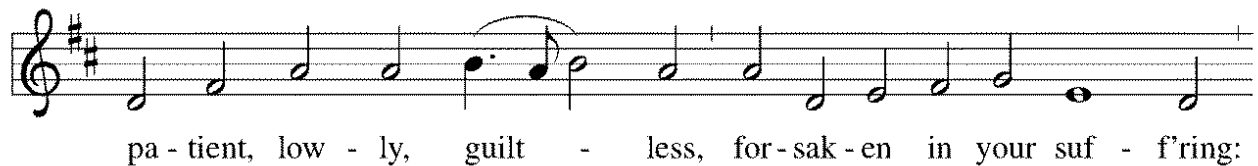
Carrying the cross by himself, Jesus went out to the place called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches, and wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and blessing.

Silent Meditation

L The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:

C **for the transgression of my people was he stricken.**

HYMN 357 ***“Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless”***



L Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

THIRD STATION: THE CROSS IS LAID ON SIMON OF CYRENE

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

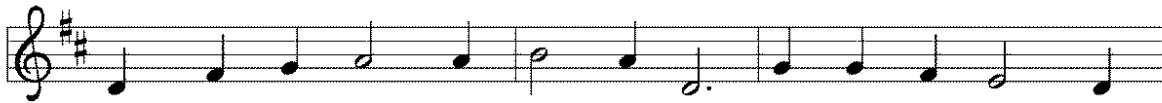
As they led Jesus away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Silent Meditation

L Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me

C cannot be my disciple.

HYMN 358 (st. 1-3) "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here"



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © Oxford University Press. Used by permission.

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L Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
C have mercy and hear us.

FOURTH STATION: JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

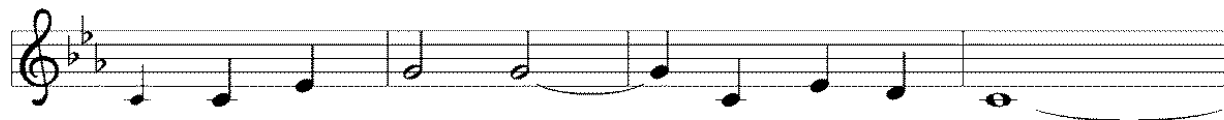
A great number of the people followed Jesus, and among them were women who were wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

Silent Meditation

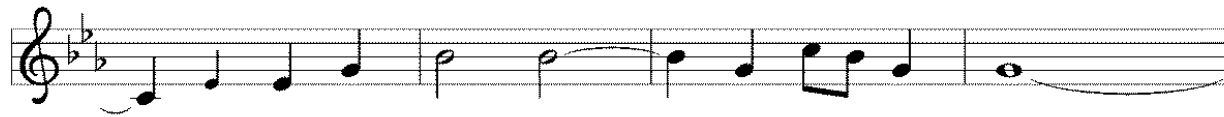
L Those who sowed with tears
C will reap with songs of joy.

HYMN 325

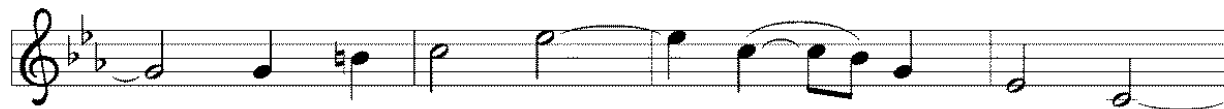
"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"



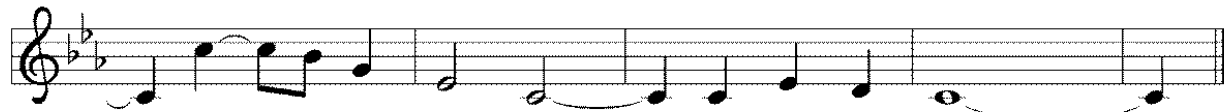
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

L Let us pray.

Teach your church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children's children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

FIFTH STATION: JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

When they came to a place called Golgotha, they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. The soldiers divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots."

Silent Meditation

L They gave me gall to eat,

C **and when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.**

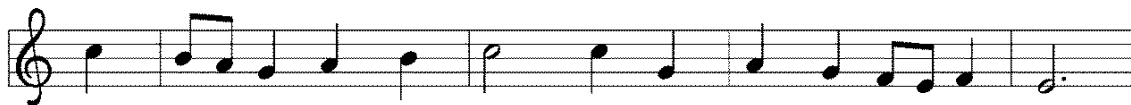
HYMN 351(st. 1-3) "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"



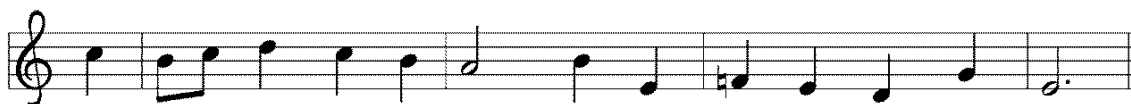
1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

L Let us pray.

O God, your Son chose the path which led to pain before joy and the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

SIXTH STATION: JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Jesus; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, and one on the left. He poured out himself to death, and yet he bore the sin of many.

Silent Meditation

L They pierce my hands and my feet;

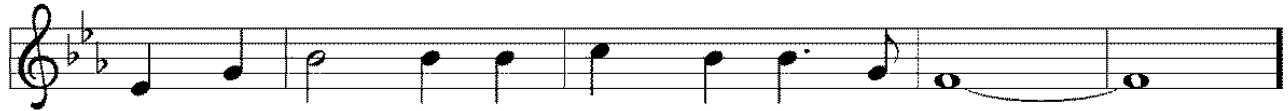
C they stare and gloat over me.

HYMN 353 (st. 1-3)

"Were You There"



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

L Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

SEVENTH STATION: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

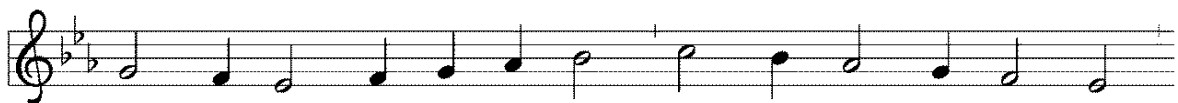
When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother." And when Jesus had received the vinegar he said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Silent Meditation

L Christ for us became obedient unto death,

C even death on a cross.

HYMN 345 (st. 1-2) "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"



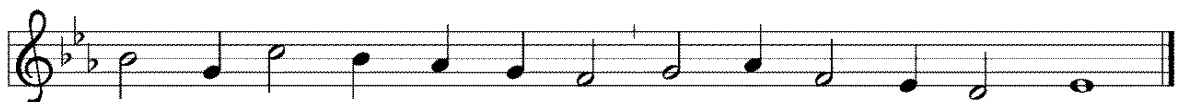
1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,
4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,



let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.
bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;
but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.
nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,
For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.
how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

L Let us pray.

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, so that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection; who lives and reigns now and forever.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

EIGHTH STATION: JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

L We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

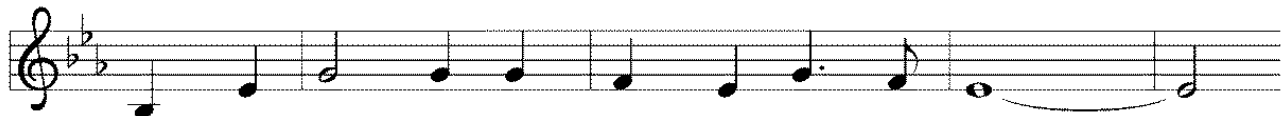
Silent Meditation

L You will not abandon me to the grave,

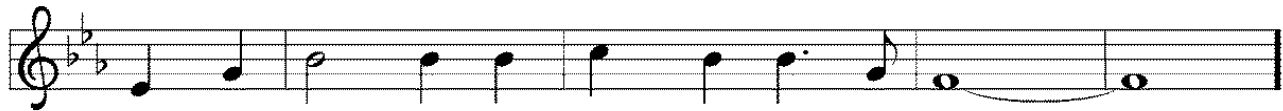
C nor let your holy one see corruption.

HYMN 353 (st. 4-5)

"Were You There"



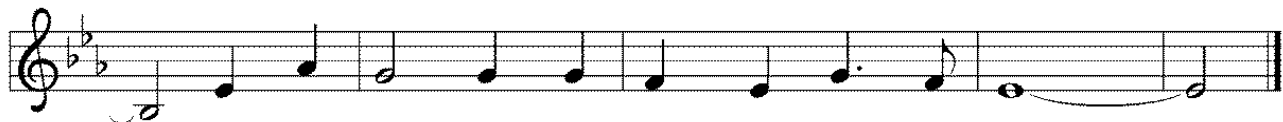
- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

L Let us pray.

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day. Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns forever and ever.

C Amen

L Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C have mercy and hear us.

CONCLUSION

L Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us.

C Save us and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

L Let us pray.

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

L To Christ our Lord who loves us, washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

C Amen

L Let us go forth in peace.

C In the name of Christ, Our Lord.

THE PARISH COUNCIL

***If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.***

Joanne Pittfick, President
Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
Brian Ansink, Fellowship
Karen Garone, Finance
Karen Alicata, Treasurer
Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
Marina Bedrossian, Youth
Rich Doino, Property
Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
Betty Bose, Music and Worship
Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
Paul Farber, Stewardship

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Sunday Schedule **9:30am In person** **The Holy Eucharist**
and Live stream via YouTube

Sunday school N3 – Grade 5 9:00am In person

Monday Schedule 7:30pm In person The Holy Eucharist
NO MONDAY EVENING HOLY EUCHARIST APRIL 1

Church Office: 631-269-6454 School Office: 631-269-4898
www.abidingpresencechurch.org
email: abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com