

Bethany United Methodist Church

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12:00 noon
March 21, 2008



Good Friday Service

PRELUDE

*Two Lenten Hymn Settings
O Sacred Now Wounded
Come, Sweet Death*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(born 21 March 1685)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree
That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

*OPENING PRAYER

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.

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done

UMH, no. 287

SILENT PRAYER

CHRIST'S LAMENT AGAINST HIS CHURCH

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me, which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

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.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna. I brought you through tribulation and penitence and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard. I made you the branches of my vine, but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

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.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing.
Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One, have mercy upon us.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed* UMH, no. 294

THE CRUCIFIXION NARRATIVE Matthew 27:27-50

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* UMH, no. 286

PLEA FOR DELIVERANCE Psalm 22:1-18 UMH, no. 752-753

ANTHEM *Pietá* Joseph M. Martin

THE SUFFERING SERVANT Isaiah 53:1-12

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SILENT PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

*TOLLING OF THE BELL

Please depart from the sanctuary in silence

**Congregation to Stand*