



April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday

A Service of Shadows and Holy Communion

Beyond the Shadows

Prelude

Call to Worship (paraphrase of Psalm 57)

Responsively

AM: The world was in darkness and God said: “Let there be light!”

All: With the light comes shadows-shadows of fear and shadows of secrecy.

AM: “I will take my refuge in the shadow of God’s wings.”

All: We will call upon God the Most High.

AM: For God’s unfailing love is as wide as the heavens,

All: And God’s truth reaches to the skies.

Prayer

AM: Let us pray,

All: God of light and darkness, keep us ever mindful of your presence, even in the shadows of our lives. May we look beyond the shadows of the cross to the sunrise bringing with it the glorious resurrection.

Amen

Hymn

“What Wondrous Love is This”

ELW#666 vs. 1&4

Shadow of the Future

Mark 14:1-11

¹It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ²for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people." ³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her." ¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Extinguish First Candle

Hymn

“Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”

ELW#360

The Shadow of the Kingdom to Come

Mark 14:17-25

¹⁷When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."

¹⁹They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?"

²⁰He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

²²While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Extinguish Second Candle

AM: At this time we will receive our offering.

Offering

Accompanists Choice

Procession of Offering

“Doxology”

ELW#885

**Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, the heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Offering Prayer

AM: Let us pray,

All: God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives.

As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, That all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Service of Holy Communion

Hymn

“One Bread, One Body”

ELW#496

Call To Confession

PM: God of compassion, hear us as we confess our sins to you.

Time Of Silent Reflection and Confession

Prayer of Confession

PM: Let us pray..

All: Almighty God, who knows us and understands our need, forgive our waywardness. Forgive our sins of omission, our sins of betrayal and denial. Open our eyes to see beyond the shadows of life to your glorious kingdom. Keep us on the path to which you have brought us. Let your world be healing balm for our sins. Amen

Words of Forgiveness (Based on John 12:47, 13:1)

PM: Jesus said; “I came not to judge the world, but to save the world” and “having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.” The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven.

The Great Thanksgiving

PM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

PM: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: May we always give thanks and praise to you.

PM: Father Almighty, Creator of the light which brings with it the shadows, it is right for us to give you praise and thanksgivings who sing their unending praise, saying:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy

Powerful and mighty is our God;

Your glory fills heaven and earth.

Glory to God in the highest.

We bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

PM: Lord, God, we indeed bless your holy Name and your son, Jesus Christ. We again proclaim the mystery of our faith.

All: Christ has died.

Christ has arisen.

Christ will come again.

Words of Institution

PM: And now, Creator God, as we gather at your table spread for us...

... as children who are loved, let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us to pray.

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

ALL: 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

Invitation to Communion

PM: Come to Jesus, our host and meal.

Distribution Blessing

Prayer after Communion

PM: Life-giving God,

All: in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen

Hymn "Lord Who's Love in Humble Service" ELW#712 vs. 1&3

The Shadow of Slumber

Mark 14:26-42

²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." ³⁰Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

³⁵And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." ³⁷He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep?"

Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹He 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. ⁴²Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Extinguish Third Candle

Hymn

“Go To Dark Gethsemane”

ELW#347 v. 1

The Shadow of Betrayal

Mark 14:43-50

⁴³Immediately, 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. ⁴⁴Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." ⁴⁵So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁴⁶Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. ⁴⁷But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? ⁴⁹Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰All of them deserted him and fled.

Extinguish Fourth Candle

Hymn

“Were You There?”

Were you there when they all deserted him?

Were you there when they all deserted him?

Oh..... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they all deserted him?

The Shadow of Denial

Mark 14:53-72

⁵³They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴Peter 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. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. ⁵⁶For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ⁵⁸We 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.' ⁵⁹But even on this point their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" ⁶¹But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶²Jesus 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.'" ⁶³Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵Some 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. ⁶⁶While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." ⁶⁸But 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.

⁶⁹And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰But 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." ⁷¹But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." ⁷²At 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.
Extinguish Fifth Candle

Hymn

“Rock Of Ages, Cleft For Me”

ELW#623 v. 2

The Shadow of the Morning

Mark 15:1-20

¹As 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. ²Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!"

¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

¹⁸And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Extinguish Sixth Candle

Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

ELW#351

The Shadow of Truth

Mark 15:21-39

²¹They 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. ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let 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.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

³⁴At 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?"

³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶And 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." ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Extinguish the Seventh Candle

Hymn

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

ELW#347 v. 2

Dim All Lights

Psalm 22

Stripping of the Altar

After the meal, Jesus and his disciples walk to the Garden of Gethsemane, where he is arrested and taken to be tried. By 3pm on Friday, Jesus will have been found guilty of blasphemy (lying about God) by his own people, sentenced to death by the Romans, brutally beaten, nailed to a cross, and died. Tonight's stripping of the altar symbolizes Christ's humiliation and death.

Return part of the lights

Leave in silence