



CHAD MAROHN
PRINCIPAL
chad.marohn@stpaulshowardsgrove.org

920-918-6783



St. Paul's Church & School 441 Millersville Ave Howards Grove, WI 53083 Office number: 920-565-3780 www.stpaulshowardsgrove.org

REV. AARON MUELLER pastormueller@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-207-2316

LUTHER CURIA STAFF MINISTER

luther.curia@stpauIshowardsgrove.org 920-287-8575

REV. ADAM BODE pastorbode@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-224-2961

> ERIN RADUE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

secretary@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-901-6167

ERIC EICKHOFF **PRESIDENT**

president@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-980-9068

ERIC VANT HUL HEAD EIDER

headelder@stpaulshowardsgrove.org 920-946-9015

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A special welcome to our guests and visitors and thank you for joining us!

We at St. Paul's share a common belief that Jesus is our Savior from sin and is the Lord of our lives. Our faith is based on God's Word, which is revealed in the Bible. We want to share this great news with as many people as possible, because we know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from death to save all people!

We offer Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays/Mondays of each month. God says that Communion is an expression of unity (1 Cor.10:16-17), so we practice close communion. Those who have explored and established unity with us on the basis of God's Word are invited up to the Lord's Table. Please speak to a pastor if you have questions about our practice.

FAMILIES WITH SMALL CHILDREN

There are changing tables located in BOTH the women's and men's school bathrooms near the school. There are children's quiet bags in the narthex. If you use one, please make sure to put it back. Please reserve the back few pews for families with small children. We have a nursery room located just off the narthex. There is a speaker in there so you can still hear and take part in the worship service. Please feel free to use this room for your child(ren), including a place to nurse.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (The WELS) and was founded in 1862. We have our Lutheran elementary school (4K-grade 8) on site and are part of a federation of churches to support our own high school, Manitowoc Lutheran High School.

The Tenebrae Service: The service of Tenebrae dates back as far as the seventh century and depicts the final events of Christ's life on earth. The word Tenebrae comes from the Latin for "darkness" or "shadows". The black candles as they are extinguished one by one symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The white candle, the Christ candle, represents the Lord himself. In ancient times the Christ candle was hidden after the Tenebrae service to be brought back on Easter Sunday.

THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL MATTHEW 26:20-25

Reader 1: When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. And while they were eating, he said,

Reader 2: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

Reader 1: They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord?" Jesus replied,

Reader 2: "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

Reader 1: Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?" Jesus answered,

Reader 2: "You have said so."

AnthemIs It I, Lord?

When it was evening he sat at the table with the Twelve. As they were eating he said, "One of you will betray me." And sorrowful, they each began to say, "Is it I, Lord? O Master, tell me, is it I, Lord?"

THE SHADOW OF INNER AGONY LUKE 22:39-44

Reader 1: Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them,

Reader 2: "Pray that you will not fall into temptation."

Reader 1: He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed,

Reader 2: "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

Reader 1: An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Anthem Remove This Cup

And then he came unto the Mount of Olives, and his disciples, they did follow. He said, "Pray that you may not meet temptation." And he withdrew from them and knelt and prayed, "Father, if thou are willing, remove this cup from me! Yet, not my will, but thine be done."

And there appeared to him an angel who gave strength to uplift him. And being in agony he prayed again, and his sweat drops became as blood upon the ground.

THE SHADOW OF LONELINESS MATTHEW 26:40-45

Reader 1: Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping; and he asked Peter,

Reader 2: "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Reader 1: He went away a second time and prayed,

Reader 2: "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

Reader 1: When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. Then he returned to the disciples and said to them,

Reader 2: "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners."

Anthem *'Tis Midnight*

'Tis midnight and on Olive's brow the star is dimmed that lately shone. 'Tis midnight in the garden now, the suffering Savior prays alone. 'Tis midnight and for other's guilt, the Man of Sorrows weeps in blood.

Yet he who hath in anguish knelt is not forsaken by his God. 'Tis midnight and from heavenly plains is borne the song that angels know. Unheard by mortals are the strains that sweetly soothe the Savior's woe.

THE SHADOW OF DESERTION

MATTHEW 26:48-50

Reader 1: Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus replied,

Reader 2: "Do what you came for, friend."

Reader 1: Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him.

Anthem

Friend, Why Are You Here?

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I kiss is the man. Seize him!" And he came to Jesus and said, "Hail, Master!" and he kissed him. And Jesus said, "Friend, why are you here?"

And then they came up and laid their hands on Jesus and seized him.

THE SHADOW OF ACCUSATION

MARK 15:8-15 & LUKE 23:33-34

Reader 1: The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. Knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him, Pilate asked,

Reader 2: "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?"

Reader 1: But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. Pilate asked them,

Reader 2: "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?"

Reader 1: "Crucify him!" they shouted. Pilate asked,

Reader 2: "Why? What crime has he committed?"

Reader 1: But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

Reader 2: Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

Reader 1: When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said,

Reader 2: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Anthem

Father, Forgive Them

And when they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION

JOHN 19:23-30

Reader 1: When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. They said to one another,

Reader 2: "Let's not tear it. Let's decide by lot who will get it."

Reader 1: This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

Reader 2: "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.

Reader 1: Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her,

Reader 2: "Woman, here is your son,"

Reader 1: and to the disciple,

Reader 2: "Here is your mother."

Reader 1: From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said.

Reader 2: "I am thirsty."

Reader 1: A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said,

Reader 2: "It is finished."

Reader 1: With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

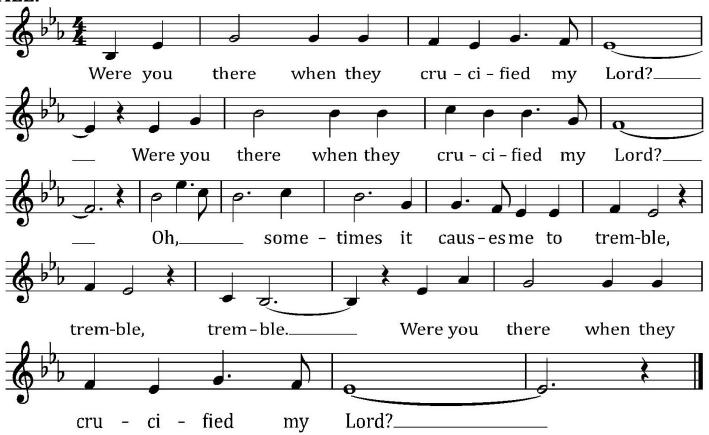
Were You There?

Hymn

Led by Choir

Choir: Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble.

ALL:



Sermon John 19

Jesus Crossed the Finish Line End of our shame – End of our neglect – End of our suffering

THE SHADOW OF DEATH LUKE 23:47-48

Reader 1: The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said,

Reader 2: "Surely this was a righteous man."

Reader 1: When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.

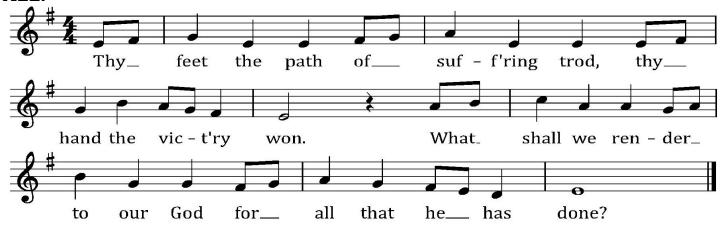
O Thou Who through This Holy Week

Hymn

Led by Choir

Choir: O thou who through this Holy Week did suffer for us all, the sick to heal, the lost to seek, to raise up them that fall. We cannot understand the woe thy love was pleased to bear. O Lamb of God, we only know that all our hopes are there.

ALL:



Anthem

'Tis Finished, the Messiah Dies

'Tis finished, the Messiah dies, cut off for sins, but not his own. Accomplished is the sacrifice, the great redeeming work is done.

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At the end of the service, all are asked to depart the church in silence, reflecting on the deep love of Jesus Christ, that he has suffered and died for each of us.

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SERVING JESUS WITH HEARTS OF LOVE:

PASTOR: Rev. Adam Bode **PIANIST:** Gillian Curia

READERS: Mike Leahy and Chad Marohn

MUSICIANS: Mary Athorp, Amber Barber, Thomas Cameron, Jill Grzonka, Tanya Schmidt, Brad Tinker, and Sue

Vant Hul

ALTAR GUILD: Ione Prange, Lisa Specht, Christina Sprenger. *Online giving options available* In thanks to our gracious Lord and his gift of forgiveness in Jesus, we bring to him a generous portion of all we have received from him. Offerings for the Lord's work may be placed in one of the designated boxes in the narthex today. They may also be mailed in, dropped off in the office, or given online.



