

MELLINGERS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
7:00 pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF SHADOWS
April 22, 2011

A Reading From Hosea the 6th Chapter verses 1-6

P: Come, let us return to the LORD;
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.
²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.
³Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;
he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth."
⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets,
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

***Good Friday Prayer for the Day**

Pastor: Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over into the hands of sinners to suffer death on the Cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Congregation: Amen

***Hymn #351: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"**

***Psalm 4 (Sung Responsively)**

Hymn #4

Sermon

Our Lord's Descent into Darkness

Jesus in Prayer Before He Suffers Matthew 26:36-46

The First Candle is Extinguished

Jesus is Betrayed by Judas and Deserted by His Disciples Matthew 26:47-56

The Second Candle is Extinguished

Hymn 349: "Ah, Holy Jesus"

Jesus is Led to Caiaphas, the High Priest Matthew 26:57-68

The Third Candle is Extinguished

Jesus is Taken Before Pilate and Barabbas is Freed John 18:28-40

The Fourth Candle is Extinguished

Hymn 803: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Jesus is Mocked and the Crowd Calls for His Crucifixion John 19:1-6, 12-16

The Fifth Candle is Extinguished

Jesus is Crucified and Commends Himself to The Father Luke 23:32-46

The Sixth Candle is Extinguished

***Hymn #353: "Were You There"**

The Presence of Darkness

The Christ Candle is Taken from the Sanctuary

The Seven Words from the Cross

1. "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."
2. "Today thou shalt be with me in Paradise."
3. "Woman behold thy son", (to His beloved disciple) "Behold thy mother."
4. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
5. "I thirst."
6. "It is finished."
7. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

The Apostles' Creed is said in the Darkness

The Christ Candle is Returned

Silent Recession

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John 1:1-14

** Please stand if you are able.*



Candlebearer: Kim Craven
Lay Readers: Choir Members
The Seven Words: Rick Dillon



Good Friday

Why the cross? In Jesus' day, the Roman army ruling Israel carried out capital punishment by using a wooden cross. Criminals, troublemakers and others who threatened society were crucified in public places for everyone to see.

False charges were levied against Jesus. Caiaphas, the Jewish high priest, accused him of blasphemy against God and of being a threat to Roman rule. Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor, had Jesus nailed to a cross on a Friday.

Perhaps ironically to non-Christians, that day came to be called Good Friday. God reached down into our Lord's grave and restored him to life. The cross that had been a symbol of horror became a symbol of joy.

That's why we sing with gusto:

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time,
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.*

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

On Saturday April 23, 2011 @ 9:30 AM all are welcome to assist with the **set up and preparation for the Easter Dawn breakfast**; We will be holding our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** here on the grounds of Mellingers on Saturday, April 23 at 11 a.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24: EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Dawn Service 6:00 AM and ending by approximately 6:30 AM; **Breakfast** will be served from 6:30 AM till 7:30 AM; **Holy Communion** is at 9:00 am. **Easter Flowers** may be picked up after the Sunday Service.