



**\*Indicates when to stand if able.**

**Today's Servants:**

Accompanist:	Jill Kohler
Acolyte:	Ava Staley
Altar Ceremony:	Worship Committee Members
Liturgists:	Chris Vause, Mari Kirsch, & Karen Gaba
Media Center:	Cindy White

**Seven Last Words**

Good Friday  
April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 7:00 pm

Minooka United Methodist Church

Minooka United Methodist Church  
205 W. Church St. Minooka, IL 60447  
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*KW 3/16/2021*

**Prelude** Jill Kohler  
*Let us quietly prepare our hearts for worship to our Great God.*

**\*Call to Worship** Karen Gaba  
Leader: O Lord, let our souls rise up to meet You. Come, let us bow down & bend our knees. Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
**People: In the cross, we see how far people will go in their hate.**  
L: And in the cross we see how far God will come in love.  
**All: Let us come to the cross, to lay down our animosity and accept God's love. Amen.**

**Special Music** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Dennis Morris

**Unison Prayer** Karen Gaba  
**Almighty God, we draw near to You this evening bringing all the struggles we carry: the selfishness, hurts, condemnation and unforgiveness. We ask the power of the cross to transform our lives. Lord, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed into the hands of sinners & suffer death upon the cross. We pray all this in His mighty name. Amen.**

**Hymn** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" UMH #286  
1. O sacred Head, now wounded,  
with grief and shame weighed down,  
now scornfully surrounded  
with thorns, thine only crown:  
how pale though art with anguish,  
with sore abuse and scorn!  
How does that visage languish  
which once was bright as morn!

2. What thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
was all for sinners' gain;  
mine, mine was the transgression,  
but thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve thy place;  
look on me with thy favor,  
vouch safe to me thy grace.

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded  
CCLI Song # 4224059  
Bernard of Clairvaux | Hans Leo Hassler | James Waddell Alexander | Paulus Gerhardt  
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What Wondrous Love is This  
By Paul Christiansen

The Old Rugged Cross  
CCLI Song # 19722  
George Bennard  
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Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross  
CCLI Song # 36736  
Fanny Jane Crosby | William Howard Doane  
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Were You There  
CCLI Song # 3177994  
William Farley Smith  
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Are Ye Able  
Words: Earl Marlatt  
Music: Harry S. Mason

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed  
CCLI Song # 106123  
Hugh Wilson | Isaac Watts  
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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
CCLI Song # 27893  
Isaac Watts | Lowell Mason  
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**The First Word** “Weep for Yourself & Your Children”

Luke 23:26-31

Chris Vause

<sup>26</sup> As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. <sup>27</sup> A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

<sup>28</sup> Jesus turned and said to them, “**Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children.**” <sup>29</sup> For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ <sup>30</sup> Then, they will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ <sup>31</sup> For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

(Extinguish 1<sup>st</sup> Candle)

**Hymn**

“What Wondrous Love is This”

UMH #292

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of life  
to lay aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,  
to lay aside His crown for my soul.

**Responsive Prayer**

Chris Vause

L: Eternal God, we praise You for Your wondrous love. Through Your precious blood, we receive forgiveness and new life.

**P: Through Your sacrifice, we receive salvation and hope.**

L: Lord, free us from the sin that keeps us from living as Your children. Through Your loving mercy, deliver us from our sin.

**P: Heavenly Father, increase our faith in Your mighty name.**

**The Second Word**

“Rejection”

Mari Kirsch

Matthew 27:33-37

<sup>33</sup> They came to a place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). <sup>34</sup> There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. <sup>35</sup> When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. <sup>36</sup> And sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

<sup>37</sup> Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. (Extinguish 2<sup>nd</sup> Candle)

**Hymn** "The Old Rugged Cross" UMH #504

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
the emblem of suffering and shame;  
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
and exchange it some day for a crown.

2. O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
has a wondrous attraction for me;  
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above  
to bear it to dark Calvary. (Refrain)

**Meditation** Rev. Sarah Hong

**Responsive Prayer** Mari Kirsch

L: Lord, hear our prayer. Forgive us as we confess our sins. Let us experience the freedom that comes through our repentance and your forgiveness.

**P: Loving God, You know the suffering, unrighteousness and misfortune of this world. Have mercy on us. We confess our need for You.**

L: Mighty Healer, show compassion on those who suffer in poverty, sickness, oppression, pain and loneliness. Offer mercy to those who suffer from addictions and apathy to the suffering of others.

**P: Lord, free us from the power of sin and death. Free us to love You fully.**

**The Third Word** "Pardon" Karen Gaba  
Luke 23:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.<sup>35</sup> The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."<sup>36</sup> The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar<sup>37</sup> and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."<sup>38</sup> There was a written notice above him,

**The Final Word** John 1:1-12 Pastor Sarah  
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John.<sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.<sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.<sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

**Hymn** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" UMH #298

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were an offering far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

**Lord's Prayer**

**Stripping the Altar** Worship Committee

**\*Closing Words & Leave In Silence**

Wherever you go, may God guide you through the darkness and protect you through the storms. May God fill your hearts with peace, hope, and love. Go with the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Responsive Prayer

Karen Gaba

L: God, who forgives our sin, heals our pain, and conquers death, You are our only hope and salvation. Mold us to become a people of faithfulness and courage. Hasten the arrival of Your kingdom.

**P: Creator God, we thank You for our ancestors of faith and their witness of obedient love. Lead to follow their examples of love and commitment to your commandments.**

### The Seventh Word

“Faith”

Mari Kirsch

Luke 23:44-46

<sup>44</sup> It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, <sup>45</sup> for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. <sup>46</sup> Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Extinguish 7th Candle)

### Hymn

“Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed”

UMH #294

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed,  
and did my Sovereign die!  
Would he devote that sacred head  
for sinners such as I?

3. Well might the sun in darkness hide,  
and shut its glories in,  
when God, the mighty maker, died  
for his own creature's sin.

### Responsive Prayer

Mari Kirsch

L: Gracious and loving God. You sent Your son to be crucified for our sins. Help us to fix our eyes on the cross. Renew us in your refining fire so that we do not fear doing what is right. Lead us to follow Christ who lived each day in prayer. We desire for our lives to be pleasing in Your eyes.

**P: Merciful and mighty God, we dedicate our lives to You. All we have is Yours. We want to be a living sacrifice. As Your redeemed people, we glorify Your name now and forever.**

which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”<sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”<sup>42</sup> Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”<sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” (Extinguish 3<sup>rd</sup> Candle)

### Hymn

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

UMH #301

1. Jesus, keep me near the cross,  
there a precious fountain;  
free to all, a healing stream,  
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain: In the cross, in the cross  
be my glory ever,  
till my raptured soul shall find  
rest beyond the river.

2. Near the cross, a trembling soul,  
love and mercy found me;  
there the bright and morning star  
shed its beams around me. (Refrain)

### Responsive Prayer

Karen Gaba

L: Infinite and everlasting Father, You are the source of all goodness. You are always near Your children. Anoint Your people with Your Holy Spirit and encounter them intimately. Strengthen our love for You. Deepen our fellowship with one another.

**P: Eternal God, You are the only one who can unify us. Help Your church to fulfill our calling. Give us patience to love others. Help us to imitate Jesus Christ who walked each day with love. In His name we pray. Amen.**

### The Fourth Word

“Love”

Chris Vause

John 19:23-27

<sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> “Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.” This happened that the scripture might

be fulfilled that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.<sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son,"<sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.  
(Extinguish 4th Candle)

**Hymn** "Were You There" UMH #288

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Refrain: Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

4. Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Refrain)

**Responsive Prayer** Chris Vause

L: Mighty God, You are the ultimate source of strength for all who call on You. Remind us that nothing can exist apart from You and the salvation You offer in Jesus Christ.

**P: God, Your light shines in our darkness. You know everything about us. Have mercy on us. Until we breathe our final breath, hold us close that we may never be distant from You. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

**The Fifth Word** "Loneliness" Mari Kirsch  
Mark 15:29-34

<sup>29</sup> Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days,<sup>30</sup> come down from the cross and save yourself!"<sup>31</sup> In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself!"<sup>32</sup> Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.<sup>33</sup> At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.<sup>34</sup> And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") (Extinguish 5th Candle)

**Hymn** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" UMH #297

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

2. Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me; and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

**Responsive Prayer** Mari Kirsch

L: Most Holy God, Your love sent Jesus to Golgotha in suffering. Your mercy sent Him to the cross to pay the price of our sins. Pour out your grace on us so we can follow in Jesus' footsteps and live the life of peace and love.

**P: Lord, give us faith and courage to dedicate the most precious things in our lives to You. Help us to stand firm in times of trial. Help us to reveal Christ's presence in the midst of our struggles. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

**The Sixth Word** "Need" Karen Gaba  
John 19:28

<sup>28</sup> Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."  
(Extinguish 6th Candle)

**Hymn** "Are Ye Able" UMH #530

1. "Are ye able," said the Master,  
"to be crucified with me?"  
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered,  
"to the death we follow Thee."

Refrain: Lord, we are able. Our spirits are Thine.  
Remold them, make us, like Thee, divine.  
Thy guiding radiance above us shall be  
a beacon to God, to love, and loyalty.

2. Are ye able to remember,  
when a thief lifts up his eyes,  
that his pardoned soul is worthy  
of a place in paradise? (Refrain)