

EIGHTH THREE HOURS (3:00 - 6:00 P.M.)

From the Cross to the Tomb - Mark 15:34-47

RESPONSE

Feet that danced through the streets of Jerusalem
welcoming the Messiah
**now softly pad the back alleys
in search of shadows;**

Hearts that leapt with joy at the sight
of David's true son
**are thrown out
with Golgotha's garbage;**

Hands that wrapped a new born son
in bright bands of cloth
**now shroud his broken body
and lay him gently,
tenderly, softly
in death's manger.**

Where glad hosannas
rang out
**there is
now
only
the silent,
weeping
heart
of
God.**

The Service is concluded. You are welcome to remain as long as you like, or walk the Labyrinth inside or outside, or to visit the stations of the cross in Fellowship Hall. When you are ready, please depart in silence.

*adapted from **Lectionary Liturgies**, (c) 2005 Thom M. Shuman

You have been led in worship today by:
Rev. Marjorie Wilhelmi, Pastor
Sherrill Heinrichs, Coordinator of Congregational Care

Northbrook Presbyterian Church
www.northbrookpc.org



A Service for Good Friday*

Some believe the Passion Story in Mark's Gospel was written to serve as an Easter Vigil, telling the story as early Christians 're-lived' the last 24 hours of Jesus' life as they prepared to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection. Today's service 'reduces' those 24 hours into one, as we remember the final hours of our Lord's life.

Please take your place in silence.

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Into the shadows of chaos
the Light of the world steps;
from the silence of death
the Word of God breaks free;
for the emptiness of our souls,
the Bread of the world is broken.

FIRST THREE HOURS (6:00 - 9:00 P.M. THURSDAY)

Eating with Friends - Mark 14:17-25

RESPONSE

It was at a table that the story began:
a people longing for freedom;
**a meal to prepare them for the journey
into the wilderness;**

It was at a table that the story was re-told:
a teacher and students wondering what
the coming hours would bring;
**a meal to prepare them for the journey
into death;**

It is at the Lord's Table that the story is remembered:
by people struggling to be faithful;
**a meal to prepare us for the journey
into resurrection.**

SECOND THREE HOURS (9:00 P.M. - MIDNIGHT THURSDAY)

Running Away - Mark 14:26-50

RESPONSE

We convince ourselves that we would not act as Jesus' friends do in this story,
but lest we forget:

**we are the ones who slip quietly away
when asked to stand beside the poor and oppressed;**

Lest we forget:

**we are the deniers of Jesus
when we turn our backs on those whom our world does not recognize;**

Lest we forget:

**we are the greedy who cling to our possessions we never use
when they could bless others;**

Lest we forget:

**we are the comfortable who can sleep
through the cries of hungry children;**

Lest we forget:

**let us remember who we are
and who we can become.**

THIRD THREE HOURS (MIDNIGHT - 3:00 A.M. FRIDAY)

The Troublemaker - Mark 14:53-65

UNISON PRAYER

Rock star, politician, pro athlete:
of all the people you could have been,
you chose to become a servant -
for us.

Power, wealth, divinity:
of all the privileges you might have grasped,
you chose to take hold of a cross -
for us.

Paris, Cancun, Los Angeles;
of all the roads you might have taken,
you chose the one running through Jerusalem -
for us.

Of all the people
you might have died for -
you did.
Amen.

FOURTH THREE HOURS (3:00 - 6:00 A.M. FRIDAY)

"I do not know him" - Mark 14:66-72

Silent Reflection

FIFTH THREE HOURS (6:00 - 9:00 A.M. FRIDAY)

Trial - Mark 15:1-24

RESPONSE

No one asked him . . . not the chief priest
or his bought judges, though fear would have deafened them;

Not the governor,

balancing political options on his decision;

Not the mob:

**pockets full of nightmares,
stomachs full of poverty,
voices brimming with bile;
no goodness or mercy flowing over their cupped hands;**

No one asked him (but don't you think)

Jesus himself would have said (maybe he whispered it to himself . . .)
give them Barabbas!

SIXTH THREE HOURS (9:00 A.M. - NOON FRIDAY)

Crucified! - Mark 15:15-32

RESPONSE

Ridiculed by his enemies, outcast of his kin, deserted by his friends, God-forsaken:

**the Morning Star of Creation
hangs
covered with the grit
of the sins of the world.**

Nailed to the cross, the Carpenter of Calvary repairs our brokenness

**so we might be restored
to God's kingdom.**

SEVENTH THREE HOURS (12 NOON - 3:00 P.M.)

Mark 15:33

Silence is observed for 5 minutes