



**Bethel Lutheran Church – 301 Scott Avenue, Glenshaw
April 6, 2023**

Greeting

Hymn “ Go to Dark Gethsemane”LSB #436

Service of the Shadows

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

C: **His mercy endures forever.**

P: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.

C: **Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into this world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

C: **God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.**

P: For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

C: **Every one that does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light. But all who do what is true come to the light.**

P: Come, let us worship in spirit and truth. Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your family gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed, given into sinful hands, and suffered death on the cross. Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals as we enter the way of His suffering; through Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Matthew 26:36-46

The Shadow of AgonyThe first candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:47-56

The Shadow of Betrayal..... The second candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:57-68

The Shadow of Accusation The third candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:69-75

The Shadow of Desertion.....The fourth candle is extinguished.

Matthew 27:1-2; 11-26

The Shadow of Injustice.....The fifth candle is extinguished.

Matthew 27:27-44

The Shadow of Mocker..... The sixth candle is extinguished.

Matthew 27:45-54

The Shadow of Death.....The seventh candle is extinguished.

Communion Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

P: The darkness deepens, and the Lord grows troubled. Can we watch with Him? Can we be the friends at His table who share His bread and wine? Can we be the companions who journey with Him to the end? Come, let us worship, let us watch, and let us give thanks for such great love.

C: Amen.

Praise & Confession

P: Lord Jesus, we are stunned at Your passion and Your commitment toward us.

C: You did not run from the darkness, You did not hide from Your accusers, You did not fade into safe obscurity. You stepped with determination into the darkness, Willingly giving Yourself to whip and fist, to wood and nails.

P: We praise You, Gracious Lord,

C: for what You were prepared to endure to reconcile us with God.

P: We praise You, Gracious Lord,

C: for Your words of forgiveness, and the invitation to paradise.

P: Forgive us that we allow ourselves to become too familiar with this story. That we take Your suffering too lightly and receive Your grace too lightly.

C: As we watch with You, while the darkness encroaches, Let us remember what this journey means, and count again the cost of love.

Amen.

(The Christ candle is revealed)

(Please be Seated)

MessageRev. Donn E. Woolweber

Offering

The Lord's Prayer

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 the evil one.

For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Words of our Lord

P: When the time arrived for Jesus to be lifted up; When all had been prepared, and He shared His last meal with His friends, Our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My **T** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

P: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **T** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Distribution

Communion Hymn”*Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared*”LSB# 622

Thanksgiving

P: We thank You, Lord for giving us this sacred meal, for giving us Your Presence and Your life, and for reminding us of Your everlasting grace, which will be celebrated for all eternity.

C: Amen

THE CLEARING OF THE ALTAR

Benediction

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13

******Depart in respective SILENCE for our Lord******