

Waterloo First United Methodist Church

614 Randolph Street - Waterloo, IA 50702 - (319) 235-7088 - www.waterloofirst.org

Rev. Dr. Hojin Shin, pastor

The Mission of Waterloo First United Methodist Church is to be a church of people who live as disciples of Jesus Christ by providing a place for spiritual growth in a caring, inviting community.

April 18, 2025 Good Friday

Welcome! We are happy to have you with us today!

WELCOME

Liturgist, Bill Arndorfer & Ollie Thurman

Please sign and pass the ritual of Friendship.

CENTERING WORDS Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴ It was certainly our sickness that he carried, and our sufferings that he bore, but we thought him afflicted, struck down by God and tormented. ⁵ He was pierced because of our rebellions and crushed because of our crimes. He bore the punishment that made us whole; by his wounds we are healed.

PRELUDE

"What Wondrous Love Is This?

Arr. Mark Hayes

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On this Holy Friday, we follow Jesus through a sham trial and up the hill to Golgotha, all the while questioning:

My God, my God, where are you?

We follow the women who held vigil at the foot of the cross, all the while despairing:

My God, my God, where are you?

We come near to Jesus as soldiers mock him, all the while crying out:

My God, my God, where are you?

We sit in grief and dismay, once again confronted with the horrible reality of sin and evil in our world that people just like us would crucify Love Incarnate. And all the while, God sits with us, saying:

My child, my child, I am here.

Come, let us worship God who, even on this day, is never far from us.

Amen.

*PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Now we know:

all is grace

all is gift.

You give us all good things: life and love; daily bread and water that quenches our thirst; friends and faith. Most of all, in your Son, Jesus, you meet us with a love that will never let us go; you utter words of mercy and forgiveness that override the hurts, and heal our brokenness; you offer new beginnings where we had expected only dead ends. We give you thanks and praise for the mystery of your suffering love that gives us life. We give you thanks and praise that you know our weakness and hear our prayers. We give you thanks and praise that all our dying and living is held in your good keeping.

Now we know:

all is grace,

all is gift,

all is Love.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 22:1-5

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

Vs. 1 & 3 No. 301

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 18:1-19:42

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

No. 286

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

- "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they're doing." Luke 23:34
- "I assure you that today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43
- "Woman, here is your son." "Here is your mother." John 19: 26-27
- "My God, my God, why have you left me?" Matthew 27:46
- "I am thirsty." John 19:28
- "It is completed." John 19: 30
- "Father, into your hands I entrust my life." Luke 23:46

MOMENT OF SILENCE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-present God, on this Good Friday night, our whole world is engulfed in shadows as we remember the story of Jesus' death. We confess that we want to push the fast-forward button on this familiar story because it hurts so much. It hurts to think of the betrayal and arrest of Jesus. It hurts to imagine Jesus abandoned and suffering on the cross with only a faithful few watching him breathe his last breath. It hurts to watch your light overtaken by the shadows of the world. But we must find our place in this crucifixion story and feel the pain that is there: The pain of the world, of faithless decisions; of betrayal; of injustice. Jesus entered that pain out of faithfulness to you and to us, to witness to the Truth that is Justice, Wholeness, and Love. We confess, we are afraid to enter this pain with Jesus. Strengthen us with your courage; offer glimpses of hope in the shadows of death; let us know you are present with us here in this moment of pain; now as always.

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved followers of Jesus, it is okay to feel hurt and uncomfortable as you enter into this story and imagine your place in it. Know that God meets you in the story, with forgiveness as well as conviction; With comfort as well as challenge; with courage as well as love.

Amen.

"Were You There"

Vs. 1, 2, & 5 No. 288

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Were You There?"

Arr. Phillip Keveren

Linda Sharp, organist
*Please Stand if you are able



We are happy you are with us today!! Please sign the **attendance registration** pad located in the pew racks.

If you would like to use a **large print hymnal**, or a **hearing assistance device** please ask an usher for one.

- * Our prayer chain is available to any who have needs or concerns. We will pray with you and for you. Fill out a prayer request form located in the pew or contact the church office at 235-7088. All prayer requests will be sent out by email.
- * Our Cry Room, Nursery, and a Rest Room are all located off the hallway in the back of the sanctuary.
 - * The service is recorded each week and is available to anyone who requests it. If you know of someone who is unable to attend services and would like to receive a DVD or an audio CD, please contact the church office, 235-7088.
 - * Today's service is being live streamed on Facebook.
 - Children's Bulletins are available in the sanctuary on a table by the door in the front.
 Children's packets are available in bags and the back of the sanctuary.

MinistersEvery MemberDirector of MusicEmily ForssbergOrganistDr. Linda Sharp DMA, MDivPianistDr. John Roberts, Ed. D.Administrative AssistantKristy KlingerFinancial AssistantKris StewartMedia SpecialistSally Thurman