

St. Paul's United Church of Christ



Mundy **THURSDAY**

**Thursday, March 28, 2024
202 East Main St.
Carlinville, IL 62626
217-854-4046**

Organ Prelude

Elnor Ivers

***Greeting**

Pastor Steve Schmidt

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God

Who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death,
even death on the cross.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

***Hymn No. 226** *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”*

A Bidding Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer
(Debts and Debtors)

Pastor Steve Schmidt

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

First Reading

The religious leaders conspire against Jesus.
(The first candle is extinguished)

Second Reading

Judas plots with the authorities to deliver Jesus.
(The second candle is extinguished)

Third Reading

Jesus tells his disciples where to celebrate the
Paschal meal.

Fourth Reading

Jesus announces that one of his disciples will betray
him.
(The third candle is extinguished)

Fifth Reading

Jesus recites the Words of Institution.
(The fourth candle is extinguished)

***Communion Hymn No. 346** *“Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken”*

The Sacrament of Communion – Intinction Pastor Steve Schmidt

Chancel Choir *“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”*

Sixth Reading Jesus tells the disciples that they will all desert him.

Seventh Reading In Gethsemane the disciples fall asleep.
(The fifth candle is extinguished)

Anthem *“Could You Not Watch”* **Chancel Choir**

Eighth Reading Jesus is betrayed by Judas, and then by the Roman soldiers.
(The sixth candle is extinguished)

Ninth Reading Jesus’ trial begins in the court of the high priest Caiaphas.
(The seventh candle is extinguished)

Tenth Reading Peter denies having any knowledge of Jesus.
(The eighth candle is extinguished)

***Hymn No. 218** *“Ah, Holy Jesus”*

Eleventh Reading Jesus is put into the custody of Pontius Pilate.
(The ninth candle is extinguished)

Twelfth Reading Jesus is put on the stand before Pontius Pilate.
(The tenth candle is extinguished)

Thirteenth Reading The crowd shouts, “Crucify him, crucify him!”

Fourteenth Reading The Roman soldiers mock Jesus.
(The eleventh candle is extinguished)

Fifteenth Reading Jesus is crucified.
(*The twelfth candle is extinguished*)

***Hymn No. 224** *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

Sixteenth Reading Jesus breathes His last breath.

Organ Solo *“Ah, Holy Jesus”* **Elnor Ivers**

Seventeenth Reading The curtain of the temple is torn, the earth shakes.

Congregational Benediction: *“If We Had Been There”*

Pastor: If we had been Jews, would we have spoken out for Him when the Sanhedrin accused Him of blasphemy? If we had been Gentiles would we have defended Him when the Romans condemned Him to death? If we had been disciples, would we have stayed with Him when the crowd became a crucifying mob? Or would we have been like Peter – and denied Him three times before the dawn?

***All Sing: Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.***

Pastor: And the Christ who was crucified there, once said:
 “As you have done it to the least of these, my brothers, You
 have done it unto me.”
 As nations rise war
 As governments oppress the poor
 As passive people turn and look aside.
 In silence we crucify.
 Again – We crucify.

Congregation: *As indifference forms the pattern of our lives,
As hungry children cry for food,
As widows mourn alone in empty rooms,
In apathy we crucify.
Again – we crucify.*

All Sing: *Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.*

Pastor: I think of the nails that crucified my Lord.
They were made of iron; but more –
They were made of hatred, prejudice and greed.
And I wonder – What part of myself is found in the shadow
of that mob that stretches down through history. What part
of myself creates nails in other forms that wound my
brother – and my Lord?

Congregation: *You know how many times I have betrayed You, Lord.
You know the times I have chosen evil over good
Guilt lies upon me like an iron cloak.
My soul is heavy – my burden hard.*

All Sing: *Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
Were you there when He rose up from the grave?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble,
tremble.*

Pastor: In the act of death He absorbs our sins.
In love, He forgives our failures.
In the act of resurrection He gives the promise of
acceptance, the assurance of forgiveness, the affirmation of
eternal life. “Your sins are forgiven you,” He said, “Go
and sin no more.”

***Congregation: Through Your love, I am made whole,
Through Your death, I have found new life.
You are my shield, my redeemer and my hope.
My sins are forgiven! Amen***

Marilee Zdenek

(All leave in Silence)

The word *Maundy* is derived from the Latin *novum mandatum* and means “new commandment.”
The word *Tenebrae* is Latin for “Shadows.”

