

APRIL 18, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive):

Leader: God, you loved the world so much that you gave up your only son to die for our sins.

People: Thank you God, so we may be free of sin.

Leader: God, we sometimes forget the deep and significant meaning of the cross and the important part it plays in our faith.

People: God, help us to have a deeper and fuller understanding of the cross.

Leader: God, remind us of the ultimate sacrifice Jesus made on the cross so we could be saved through his faith.

Hymn # XXX *The Old Rugged Cross*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Almighty God, we invite you to be present among us today by the power of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for making your love know to us through your son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins over two thousand years ago. We pray you bless us with your unconditional love as we gather here this morning to worship and praise your holy name. We ask these things in the name of Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray like this saying:

#PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (Unison)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#GLORIA PATRI (Unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning,
It is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 53:4-12 and Matthew 27:32-44

SERMON MESSAGE: What Happened to the Cross?

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Prayer Requests

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

BLESSING OF OUR OFFERINGS

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

God, we recognize the greatest gift we have ever been blessed with is that of your perfect love. We offer ourselves today to be faithful disciples of Jesus. We commit ourselves this morning to living and loving the way Christ did, and to carrying on his work, here on earth. We ask that you bless our gifts, and strength us for faithful service to you and our fellow man. Amen.

#HYMN #S-12 *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

#BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Leader: Thank you God for the old rugged cross which reminds us of suffering and shame.

People: God, the cross has become a symbol of life, hope and peace with you.

Leader: Thank you God for giving up your only son to die on the cross for our sins and for all the blessings you have already given us today and every day.

People: God, nothing in all of creation can ever separate us from the unconditional love you have for us. Help us to share that unconditional love with others.

Leader: May the grace of God and his love be with you today and always.

POSTLUDE

DISMISSAL