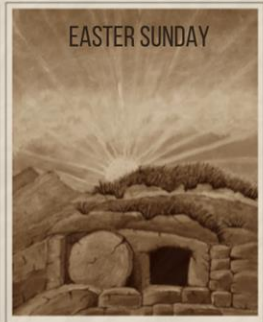
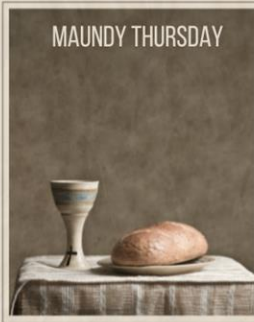
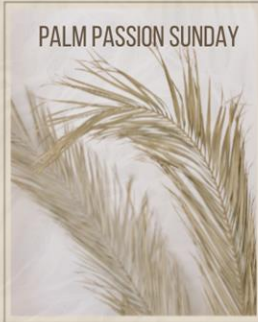




FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Maundy Thursday
Thursday, April 17, 2025 7:30pm**

**Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir
Jill Klaehn - Reader**

Ominous Shadows

Scripture Luke 22:14-18, 21-22[1]

Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles joined him. He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I tell you, I won't eat it until it is fulfilled in God's kingdom." After taking a cup and giving thanks, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on I won't drink from the fruit of the vine until God's kingdom has come."

"But look! My betrayer is with me; his hand is on this table. The Human One goes just as it has been determined.

Responsive Prayer

As the shadows lengthen at the end of the day,

We drop our guard.

As weariness welcomes freedom from obligation,

We allow our attention to slip.

As a dimming light holds our concentration,

We notice less and less around us

As unexpected words come to us,

We submit to confusion.

As life does not evolve as we expect,

We blame you, O Holy One,

for challenging us

when we do not have the energy to kindle something new.

Have mercy on us.

The Shadows on Our Path

Scripture Luke 22:39-46

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, 'Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.' Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, 'Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.' [[Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.]] When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, 'Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.'

4.

Anthem

On the Mount of Olives

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

On the Mount of Olives he prayèd to his Father:
"Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me:
the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation.
The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
(from the Offices of Tenebrae/Mark 14:36, 38 excerpted)

Prayer

Jesus, we stand by you and let the darkness hide you.
We have said we will love you and yours,
after we find places to bed down.
We have said we will watch for your Spirit,
listen, feel her strong breeze,
once we have sheltered ourselves in comfort.
We fear the unknown, doubt our commitment,
and watch you walk away.
Have mercy on us.

Have mercy on us.

***Hymn**

Go To Dark Gethsemane

VU #133

**Go to dark Gethsemane,
you that feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see;
watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his grief away:
learn from him to watch and pray.**

**See him at the judgement hall,
beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;
see him meekly bearing all;
love to all his soul sustained.
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss:
learn from Christ to bear the cross.**

**Calvary's mournful mountain view;
there the Lord of glory see,
made a sacrifice for you,
dying on the accursèd tree.
"It is finished," hear his cry:
trust in Christ and learn to die.**

Scripture Luke 22:31-34, 54-62

'Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.' And he said to him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!' Jesus said, 'I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.'

They seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, 'This man also was with him.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' Then about an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about!' At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

What Hides in the Shadows

Scripture Luke 22: 3-6

Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

Unison Prayer

We bow our heads in silence for words are too difficult to speak when we think about our days.

**We bow our heads in silence,
in shame at the cruelty that exists in our world.**

**We bow our heads in silence, silenced by fear and evil;
and, to listen to your word, to enable you to speak to us.**

**We bow our heads in silence as Jesus did before,
during and after the experiences of his life.**

We bow our heads in silence.

6.

**God of the still, small voice,
speak to us after the storms of life have done their worst,
speak to our hearts with the silence of your love. Amen.**

***Hymn**

Shadows Gather, Deep and Cold

VU# 134

**Shadows gather, deep and cold;
lamplight flickers, fades and fails.
Lord, you know what daybreak holds:
thorns and beatings, cross and nails.
You will be denied, betrayed
when the rooster wakes the sun.
Yet you kneel alone and pray,
"Not my will, but thine be done."**

**In the watches of the night,
in the hour when darkness reigns,
in the grief that has no light,
in the time of fear and pain,
then we hold fast to your way,
to the victory you have won.
Jesus, teach us how to pray,
"Not my will, but thine be done."**

The Shadow of Restlessness

Scripture Jeremiah 6:14

They have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, 'Peace, peace', when there is no peace.

The Mandatum John 13:34

In consecration, we speak these words of Jesus,

***I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you,
you also should love one another.***

Anthem

This is My Commandment

James Whitbourn (b. 1963)

This is my commandment
that ye love one another as I have loved you.
Greater love hath no man
that he lay down his life for his friends.
(John 13:34 and John 15:13)

Unison Confession, from *A New Creed*

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

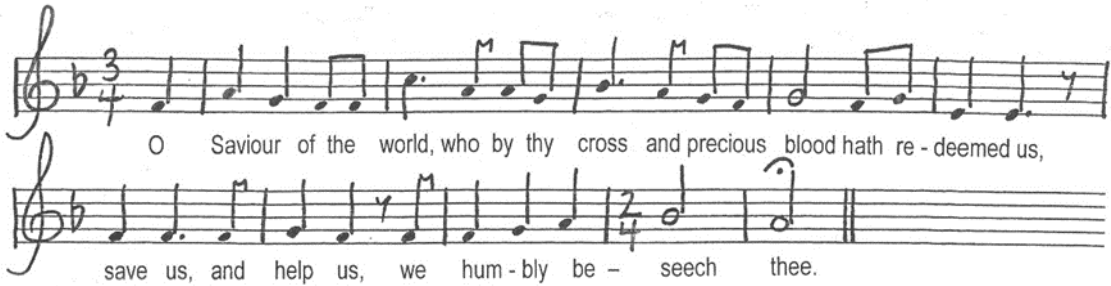
**We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Stripping of the Chancel

Introduction

The way of Jesus goes through the cross, but we are not there yet. It is close. We can see its shadow. We can feel the cold, dark night. We know that his opponents are conspiring. They have had enough of him. He threatens their power. They will come for him.

Responsory **Salvator Mundi (Sung by all)**



O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath re - deemed us,
save us, and help us, we hum - bly be - seech thee.

“My God, if it is possible, let this cup pass by me;
yet not my will, but thy will be done.”
(Matthew 26: 39)

The candles are extinguished and removed, as the responsory is sung...

**All: O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross
and precious blood hath redeemed us,
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

“My God, if it is possible, let this cup pass by me;
yet not my will, but thy will be done.”

The Pulpit antependium is removed as the responsory is sung...

**All: O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross
and precious blood hath redeemed us,
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
(Luke 23: 34)

The Cross is veiled, and the Bible closed, as the responsory is sung...

**All: O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross
and precious blood hath redeemed us,
save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee.**

Jesus, one of us betrayed you, another denied you, and all of us have forsaken you. Yet you remain faithful to us unto death, even death on a cross. Strengthen us so we do not turn aside, but follow you to the end.

The Light of the World has gone out.

The Word of the Holy One is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

The Christ Candle is extinguished.

(After the Christ Candle is extinguished, the minister will leave the sanctuary)

Scattering When you are ready, please leave the church in silence.

There are offering plates in the sanctuary for those wishing to make a donation. Thank you.

[1] All scriptures from the New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised.

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Online Worship
<https://www.fairlawnchurch.ca/spirituality/sermons/>

Facebook
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HOLY WEEK & EASTER

at

Fairlawn



Good Friday

Friday, April 18

10:30am Service



Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 20

9:00am Breakfast \$5 / person



Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20

10:30am Communion Service

Fairlawn Avenue United Church
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