



"Do this in remembrance of me."

Luke 22:19

MAUNDY THURSDAY FIRST COMMUNION

March 28, 2024 | 7 pm



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, North Carolina



Welcome to St. John's

We're so glad God has brought you here!

First Communion—Congratulations to these young people as they take this important step in their faith journey: Cooper Charest, William Charest, Wyatt Jarrett, Emily Rhyne, Finley Safrit, Carter Troutman and Reece Troutman. Special thanks to Cheryl Goins for helping the students create their own First Communion chalices. They will commune from these chalices.

Men's Ministry Breakfast—**Apr. 13, 9 am-10:30 am, Ritchie Hall**—Men of all ages are welcome! Pastor Daniel Joyner Miller will be our guest speaker. Please RSVP by clicking the QR code or in a browser: <https://app.onechurchsoftware.com/stjsalisbury/forms/39>.



Women's Ministry—Sip & Paint—**April 18, 7 pm-9 pm**, at Cauble Creek Vineyard, located at 700 Cauble Farm Rd., Salisbury, NC. All women are invited to join us for a great time of fellowship and fun!

Worship at the Lake—**Apr. 21, 10 am** at St. John's High Rock Lake Retreat Property, 220 Mockingbird Lane, Salisbury, NC 28146. Lunch will follow the service. Bring a covered side dish or dessert and your own chair. (We will **not** have a 9:27 service in the Faith Center, but there will be an 11 am traditional service in the Sanctuary.)

Pastor Dan Joyner Miller—Installation service—**Apr. 21, 7 pm in the Sanctuary**. Pastor Kendra Joyner Miller (Pastor Dan's wife) will preach at this service. A light reception will follow in Ritchie Hall.

Youth Sunday—**Apr. 28**, our Youth will lead worship at the 9:27 and 11 am services. If your youth is interested in participating, please email james@stjohns-salisbury.org.

St. John's Men's Chorus Spring Concert—Join us on **April 28 at 4 pm** in the Sanctuary celebrating our 30th Anniversary as we present *Singers Arise!* presented by St. John's Men Chorus. A free will offering will be taken.

+ Holy Week at St. John's +

Good Friday, worship at **12:15 pm (Chapel) and 7 pm (Sanctuary)**. A service of darkness, focused on the twelve last words of Christ. The altar is draped in black as we consider Jesus' great sacrifice and His ultimate gift of grace.

Easter Sunday, worship at **6:30 am at the Bell Tower Green, 9:27 am (Faith Center) and 11 am (Sanctuary & Online)**. Easter worship is festive, joyous, and filled with energy as we give thanks for new life and beginnings, forgiveness of sin, and Christ's triumph over the grave!

Join us for **Easter Breakfast** in Ritchie Hall from **8:30 am to 10:30 am**.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

With nightfall and the beginning of this liturgy, our Lenten observance comes to its culmination. We gather with Christians around the world in celebrating the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Our remembering is more than a retracing of the last days of Jesus' life. Rather, through word, sacrament, and ritual, we participate in the saving power of Jesus' Passover from death to life. As the Three Days begin, we are invited to glory in the cross of Christ — our salvation, our life, our resurrection.

Tonight we gather around the Lord's table to remember God's great sacrifice of love. We share the holy meal, becoming what we eat and drink: the body of Christ, offering ourselves in love for the life of the world.

At the conclusion of the liturgy, the altar and chancel furnishings are removed, preparing the worship space for Good Friday. Through this stark ritual we recall that Jesus was abandoned by his followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone. We leave in silence, ready to continue the celebration of the Three Days on Good Friday.



Worship Navigation

The Congregation is invited to respond where words are in **Bold**.

* = **Please stand as you are able**

+ = **Face the Cross**

✙ = You are invited to make the sign of the Cross.

Hymns are found by number in the red worship books located in each pew.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Canzon Quinta a 4
Trombone Quartet

by Claudio Merulo da Coreggio

Procession of the Cross*+ (*In silence*)

Confession and Forgiveness*+

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us
even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Apostolic Greeting*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day*

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



Word

We hear God's word in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as

often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Word of God. Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19, *Pastor leads the congregation in intoning the Psalmody. Congregation and choir responds in **bold** after the *.*



¹I love the LORD, who has [|] heard my voice,
 and listened to my [|] supplication,
²for the LORD has given [|] ear to me
 whenev- [|] er I called.

¹²How shall I re- [|] pay the LORD
for all the good things God has [|] done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup [|] of salvation
 and call on the name [|] of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows [|] to the LORD
 in the presence of [|] all God’s people.

¹⁵Precious in your [|] sight, O LORD,
 is the death [|] of your servants.

¹⁶O LORD, truly I [|] am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me [|] from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice [|] of thanksgiving
 and call upon the name [|] of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows [|] to the LORD
 in the presence of [|] all God’s people,

¹⁹in the courts of [|] the LORD’s house,
 in the midst of you [|] O Jerusalem.

The Holy Gospel: John 13:1-17; 31b-35*



Glo-ry to you, O Lord.

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

^{31b}"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor James Demmel

Hymn 464*

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

JESUS, FEED US

Apostles' Creed * Gathered as God's people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, ✝ the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession * *Each petition ends: "Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**"*

Sharing the Peace of Christ: *We make peace with our sisters and brothers in Christ, sharing the words "Peace be with you."*



Meal

During the 40-day season of Lent, our worship space and liturgy reflect a more subdued, penitential form. The fullness of liturgy and celebration return on Easter morning.

Preparation of the Lord's Table. *After the table is prepared, the Congregation stands and sings:*
"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful".

The Offertory Hymn 182 *

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

HILLERT



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer *

Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.
Amen.

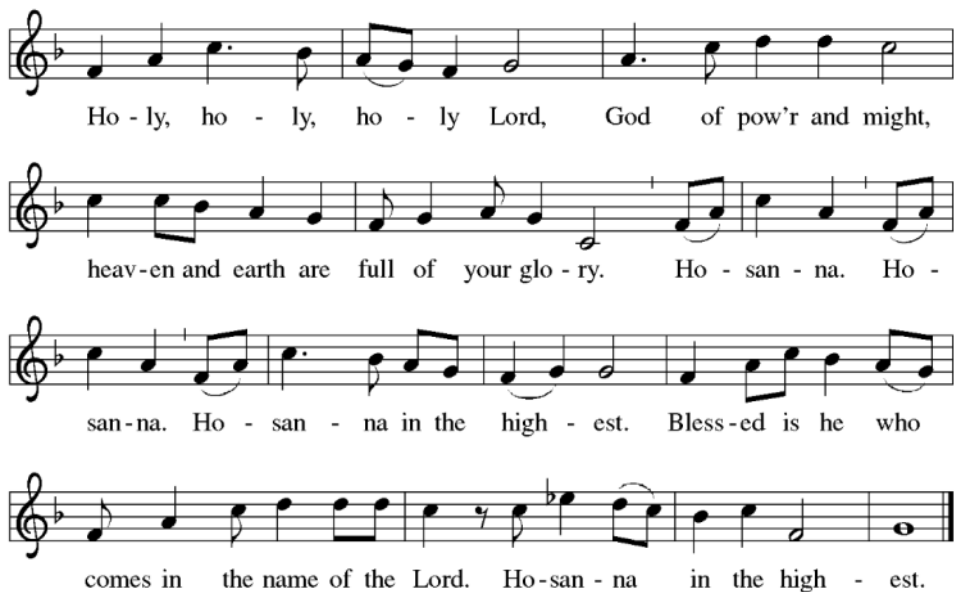
The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. ... and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer with Words of Institution*

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 evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion*

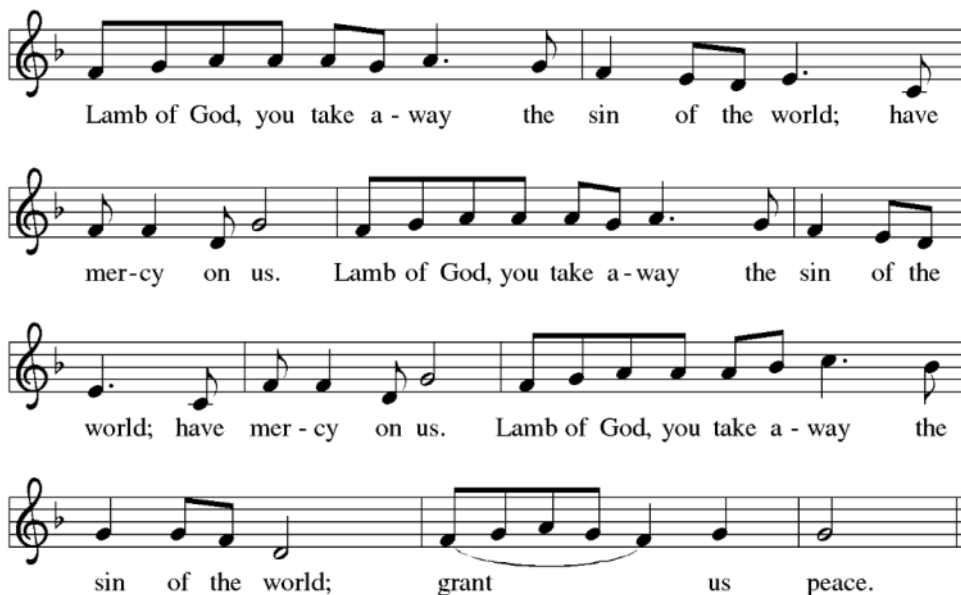
The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Distribution of Holy Communion. All baptized and communing Christians are welcome to receive God's gift of grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion at the altar. Follow the usher's instructions. Wine is served in individual cups. Grape juice and non-gluten wafers are available upon request. Please indicate your preference to the pastor. Those not receiving the sacrament, are invited forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest as a sign to the pastor. **If you need Communion brought to you in the pew, please signal the servers when they come down from the chancel.**

Celebration of First Communion. Our first communion students and their families will receive communion first at the altar. Students will receive while kneeling using self-designed chalices. Parents and siblings are invited forward to lay hands on their children as they receive first communion. Ushers will welcome you forward after students have communed. Please be in prayer with them as they come to Christ's table for their first communion. Those celebrating their first communion are Cooper Charest, William Charest, Wyatt Jarrett, Emily Rhyne, Finley Safrit, Carter Troutman and Reece Troutman.

Communion Hymn

Lamb of God



Hymn 595

Jesus Loves Me

Trombone Quartet

Amicus Meus
Christus Factus Est

by Tomás Luis de Victoria
by Anton Bruckner

Post Communion Blessing*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion*

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Choral Meditation

In Gethsemane's Garden

Setting by Robert J. Durocher

In Gethsemane's garden, grieved and distressed,
Jesus prayed to the Father, "let this cup pass from me."
"If this cup cannot pass from me unless I drink from it,
then let your will be done, Lord. Let your will be done."
The Son of Man is betrayed.



Stripping of the Altar

*The altar is stripped of its vestments and furnishings as a sign of the humiliation
Christ endured on his journey to the cross.*

*"Then Pilate's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's palace,
and the whole company gathered around him.
They stripped him of his clothes ...
spat on him ...
made fun of him ...
then they led him out to crucify him."*

Mark 15:16-20

+ We leave in silence during the tolling of the bell +

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Worship Participants

READER: Carter Troutman

SOUND: Mike Agee

TROMBONE QUARTET: Charlie Fisher, Eric Henson, Jeremy Marks, Aleksandr Witt

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Dennis Rogers, Karen Rogers, Stacey Shafer

USHERS: Steve Puckett, Franco Goodman, Glenn Terry, David Phillips, Jerry Lawson, Darryl Corriher, Gary Epperley





Community Easter Sunrise Service

March 31, 2024

6:30 AM

Bell Tower Green

(Please bring a chair or blanket)

Easter Breakfast

MARCH 31

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

RITCHIE HALL

(LOVE OFFERING ACCEPTED)



St. John's Lutheran Church

200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144 | 704.636.3431
stjohns-salisbury.org | To contact a staff member: first name@stjohns-salisbury.org

Pastoral Ministry

Senior Pastor.....Dan Joyner Miller.....ext. 2060
Pastor for Congregational CareLori Carter.....ext. 2050
Pastor for Youth and OutreachJames Demmel.....ext. 2040

Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon.....ext. 2080
Interim Contemporary Worship Leaders.....Michael Board and Ondria Witt
Assistant Parish Musician.....Janie Rollins
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins.....ext. 2190
Director of Music *emeritus*.....Karl Kinard Jr., deacon

Program Ministry

Children.....Stacey Shafer.....ext. 2020
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds), DirectorGina Phifer.....ext. 2120
Child Development Center, Executive Director.....Lea Anne Thomas.....ext. 3212

Administrative Team

Church Administrator.....Deborah Cross.....ext. 2030
Office Manager.....Vivian Connor.....ext. 2000
Bookkeeper.....Mark Bias.....ext. 2170
Communications Specialist.....Jodorrian Taylor.....ext. 2180
Facility Manager.....David Ellenburg.....ext. 2070
Custodian.....Brandt Cozad



Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*



GOOD FRIDAY

March 29, 2024 | 7 pm



St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, North Carolina
stjohns-salisbury.org | 704.636.3431

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

The word *Tenebrae* is Latin for “darkness” — an ancient liturgical form from the eighth century reflecting the dramatic contrast between light and darkness.

Please enter in silence.

Prelude

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord

During the prelude, twelve candles are lit, representing one of the biblical numbers for completeness. There were twelve sons of Jacob who became the twelve tribes of Israel. Jesus was twelve years of age when he first appeared in public. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus selected twelve disciples, hearkening back to the twelve tribes of Israel. Most dramatically, the Gospel of Mark reports that at noon, the twelfth hour, soon after Jesus was nailed to the cross, “darkness came over the whole land.” The darkness seems overwhelming. But will darkness have the final word?

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Dialog

from Genesis 1:1-4 and John 1:1-14

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In the beginning, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep. Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Each petition concludes:

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Conclusion:

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

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 evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INSTRUMENTAL:	<i>Elegy for Holy Week</i> Kevin Agner, Cello	by G.T. Thalben Ball
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The PASSION of OUR LORD

THE FIRST READING		Matthew 26:36-46
Piano Meditation	<i>How Deep the Father’s Love For Us</i>	arr. Mark Hayes
THE SECOND READING		Matthew 26:47-66
Hymn 347	<i>Go to Dark Gethsemane</i> (Stanzas 1 - 3)	GETHSEMANE
THE THIRD READING		Matthew 26:69-75

Solo

O Broken Lamb
Ondria Witt, Soloist

by Rob Durocher and Ondria Witt

Hymn 349

Ah, Holy Jesus
(Stanzas 1 - 3)

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

THE FOURTH READING

Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26

Chancel Choir

Thy Will Be Done
St. John's Chancel Choir

by Craig Courtney

ADORATION of the CROSS

*As the cross is being carried forward and placed, the pastor leads the following dialogue.
This year the cross will be carried by Michael and Drew Bitzer.*

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.
Oh, come, let us worship him.

Once the cross is placed in its stand, the dialogue concludes.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

THE FIFTH READING

Matthew 27:27-44

Hymn 351

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
(Stanzas 1 - 3)

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN

THE SIXTH READING

Matthew 27:45-54

Hymn 353

Were You There?
(Stanzas 1-3 and 5)

WERE YOU THERE

+ Silence for prayer and meditation as the Christ candle is removed +

THE SEVENTH READING

Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:1-9, 12

Chancel Choir

Christ, We Do All Adore Thee

by Theodore Dubois

Following the prayer, you are invited to place your nail at the foot of the cross.

+ We leave in silence at the tolling of the bell +