

Upper St. Croix Parish
Grantsburg: Central, Atlas, St. Croix Falls
March 29th, 2024
“Good Friday Service”

*Please stand if you are able.

***PRELUDE**

Toni Koons

***LIGHTENING SEVEN CANDLES**
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
PASSING OF THE GREETINGS

“Peace be with You”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let the ends of the earth remember and turn to God.
May all families of the nation’s worship together.

Dominion belongs to God who rules over all.

We will bow down to the dust and rise up to live.

Future generations will hear of God’s love.

We will proclaim deliverance to people yet unborn.

The law of God is written on our hearts.

Our minds hold in memory all that God requires.

My friends, have confidence to enter the sanctuary.

Come with true hearts in full assurance of faith.

We seek to provoke one another to love and do good deeds.

We will encourage one another to hope in God. Amen!

***OPENING HYMN**

Ah, Holy Jesus

UMH 289

OPENING PRAYER Unison

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we, who glory in this death for our salvation, may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Pardon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Meet us, Holy One, in our misery. We have used our freedom as license to pursue our own selfish pleasures without regard to

others. As individuals and as a church, we are centered on ourselves. We have fashioned idols that substitute for a vital relationship with you. We flee from suffering, seeking to drown our sorrows in excesses that destroy. We are afraid of being called to account. Yet, in this time of endings, we truly want to change, to learn to discipline ourselves, to grow in love. Save us and help us, O God! Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor Jenny Lee

God’s face shines on all who are truly penitent. When we sincerely desire to change, we can feel God’s love that has been waiting for us, surrounding us, inviting us into relationships. This is the day of preparation for joys that are yet to come. Let God’s forgiving love become real to you, and to all of us together. Already we are hearing rumors of good news! **Amen!**

Meditation at the Cross

SILENT MEDITATION

*During silent meditation, persons may come forward informally
before the Thorn Crown, Cross,
and Nails, and/or touch them.*

*Bring your name (post-it note) and put it on the table near the cross
as if you are crucified on the cross with Jesus.*

Anointing of Healing and Reconciliation

People are invited to come front to be anointed.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jesus’ Seven Words on the Cross and Tenebrae

(See insert)

We Go Forth to Love God and Serve One Another

March 29th, 2024

***CLOSING HYMN** *Were You There* **UMH 288 (vs.2-5)**

***BENEDICTION** **Pastor Jenny Lee**
*“May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you, now and forever.
Amen.”*

***POSTLUDE** **Toni Koons**

We leave in silence in the full knowledge of the grief. We know,
however, that Jesus’ death is not God’s final word. From the prophet
Hosea came these words,

*“I will deliver this people from the power of the grave;
I will redeem them from death.
“Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?” (Hosea 13:14)*

 **Upper St. Croix Parish
United Methodist Church**

The 2024 Parish Ministry Theme:
“Let’s Replant It” (Galatians 6:7-10)

Good Friday Service



5:30 pm
at Central-Grantsburg United Methodist Church

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Jesus' Seven Words on the Cross and Tenebrae

As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. (Luke 23:26)

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals; one on his right, the other on his left. (Luke 23:32-33)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE FIRST WORD: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)
The First candle is extinguished.

We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong. Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." (Luke 23:41-42)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE SECOND WORD: "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)
The Second candle is extinguished.

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby. (John 19:23-25)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE THIRD WORD: "Dear Woman, here is your son," "Here is your mother." (John 19:27)
The Third candle is extinguished.

From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus Cried in a loud voice. (Matthew 27:45)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE FOURTH WORD: "Eloi, Eloi, Lama sabachthani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)
The Fourth candle is extinguished.

When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "he is calling Elijah." Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. (Matthew 27:47-48)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE FIFTH WORD: "I am thirsty." (John 19:28)
The Fifth candle is extinguished.

When he received the drink, and when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. (Matthew 27:50)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE SIXTH WORD: "It is finished." (John 19:30)
The Sixth candle is extinguished.

It was now darkness came over the whole land, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice. (Luke 23:44-45)

HYMN *Were You There* **UMH 288 (v.1)**

THE SEVENTH WORD: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." (Luke 23:46)
The Seventh candle is extinguished.