

Easter Sunday

Breakfast 9:15 a.m., Egg Hunt 10:00 a.m., Worship 10:55 a.m.

Today's Good Friday service is a musical one. We reflect on the meaning of Christ's crucifixion by reading the story of his death as told by the evangelist John, singing hymns and anthems, and listening to organ music inspired by the tragic story. The story is at the center of the service: Jesus is betrayed, tried, sentenced, and executed by those around him.

Just as Johann Sebastian Bach did in composing his monumental Passions, so do we today dramatize that story with music. Bach offered multiple layers of meaning and interpretation in his settings, and there are many similarities (though length is not one of them - Bach's St. Matthew Passion runs about 3 hours) between his setting and our service today:

The events of the passion gospel are related in three parts by a narrator. A cast of solo singers act out the roles of the significant characters: Jesus, Pilate, Peter. "The crowd", represented by a choir in Bach's setting, today is several singers singing together, whether it is the "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" of the crowd, or the words of the soldiers casting lots for Jesus's garments. Other singers offer emotional reflections on the story with non-gospel texts in the form of anthems.

In the 1720's in Bach's church in Leipzig, the congregation took part in the storytelling by singing chorales (they hymns of the Lutheran church) which commented on the action. Today we open our service with the hymn "Sing my tongue the glorious battle". One of the most famous Lutheran Hymns, "Herzlich thut mich verlangen", is linked so inseparably to the story of Good Friday that it is known as "The Passion Chorale". In our hymnal, that tune, harmonized by Bach, receives the words "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded". The choir sings it today as an anthem.

We hope that today's music brings you close to the story of Jesus's death, and helps you reflect on the complexity of our relationship with him. We look forward with watchful hearts to the promise of Easter Sunday.

-Bradley Naylor, Minister of Music

Duke Memorial United Methodist Church
504 West Chapel Hill Street • Durham, North Carolina • 27701

Service of Word Friday, April 22, 2011 Good Friday

WELCOME

PRAYER

*HYMN #296 "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle" PICARDY

+GOSPEL John 18:1-27 (NT, pg 98)

CHOIR ANTHEM "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" J.S. Bach

ORGAN MUSIC "O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall" J.S. Bach

+GOSPEL John 18:28-19:16a (NT, pg 98)

CHOIR ANTHEM "Crucifixus" from Selva Morale e Spirituale C. Monteverdi
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato
Passus et sepultus est.

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,
suffered death and was buried.*

ORGAN MUSIC "How Great Thou Art" arr. D. Miller

+GOSPEL John 19:16b-42 (NT, pg 98-99)

*HYMN #288 "Were You There" WERE YOU THERE

+The chanted musical setting of the passion gospel according to John is by Ormonde Plater.

*Please stand if you are able.

