

First Mennonite Church

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF SHADOWS

March 29, 2013

7:30 p.m.

The four cups that were imbibed during the Passover Seder represent the four expressions of deliverance promised by God in Exodus 6:6-7.

⁶“Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the LORD, and **I will bring you out** from under the yoke of the Egyptians. **I will free you from being slaves** to them, and **I will redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. ⁷**I will take you as my own people**, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.’”(NIV)

In our opening video these promises are labeled *sanctification*, *deliverance*, *redemption*, and *protection*. The third cup (also called the “Cup of Blessing”) was poured following recitation of “Grace after Meals.” This is most likely the time when Jesus initiated communion. That is why in 1 Corinthians Paul says “The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?” (KJV)

The fourth cup was accompanied by a prayer asking God to send His wrath on the nations that despise Him. Although (depending on Jewish tradition) there is no fifth cup in the Passover Seder meal, Jesus would have realized that he was about to drink the symbolic fifth cup – the cup of God’s wrath - so that we could be truly free. This becomes painfully evident in the prayer he prayed at the Garden of Gethsemane, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.” (NIV)

Prelude

What Wondrous Love/Paxon

Video: *The Fifth Cup*

Were You There?

Ted Beitler and Heidi Lehman

Reader #1: Bertie Lehman

At the Foot of the Cross

Lee Dengler

Chancel Choir

Reader #2: Brian Culy

#327 [brown] *The Old Rugged Cross* (vs. 1-3)

Reader #3: Maddy Kloepper

#253 [blue] *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?* (vs. 1, 2)

Reader #4: Floyd Liechty (Matt. 27:11-18 and Matt. 27:21-23, TM)

#254 [blue] *Ah, Holy Jesus* (vs. 1, 2)

Silent Confession

Reader #5: Beth Knuth (Matt. 27:35-40, TM)

#252 [blue] *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (vs. 1-3)

Reader #6: Jeff Linthicum (Matt. 27:41-44, TM)

#311 [brown] *Hallelujah, What a Savior!* (vs. 1-3)

Reader #7: James Sommer (Matt. 27:45-46, TM)

Why

Tara Steffen

Nicole Nordeman

Worthy Is the Lamb

Reader #8: Naomi Lehman (Acts 2:22-24, TM)

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Reader #9: Brent (1 Peter 1:3-4, TM)

#324 [brown] *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

It Is Finished

First Mennonite Men's Quartet

Gaither/ Kirkland/ Rouse

Benediction

Pastor Jeff Linthicum