

UNITED EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
East Avenue and Dillon St. Baltimore, Md.
The Rev. W. Scott Hengen, III - Pastor
Mr. Robert Gundlach Director of Music

GOOD FRIDAY - HOLY COMMUNION - April 13, 1979

Organ Prelude: "Were You There?" arr. Johnson
"I Saw The Cross Of Jesus" Greek Melody
*Processional Hymn 161
*Solemn Declaration, Psalm 18:1-3 (p.482)
*Gloria Patri and Collect
The Holy Scriptures:
Old Testament: Lamentations 1:7-12(p.721)
Epistle: Hebrews 10:4-18 (p.213)
*Gloria Tibi #497
*Gospel: Luke 23:33-46 (p. 86)
*Laus Tibi #497
Sermon: "A Forgiving Sacrifice"
*The Nicene Creed, p. 24
Hymn 162
Announcements and Moments of Concern
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Offertory: "O Perfect Life of Love"
Dedication of Tithes and Offerings, Doxology
Senior Choir Anthem: "Drop, Drop Slow Tears"
Young
Alternate Order for Holy Communion, p. 32
Exhortation, Confession and Assurance
Eucharistic Prayer and Seraphic Hymn 522
Lord's Prayer and Agnus Dei 525
The Holy Communion
*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction
*Recessional Hymn 164
Silence and Meditation
Organ Postlude: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"
Pachelbel
*Congregation Standing
**Please sign Communion Card

THE CROSS AND THE CROWN

Why did Jesus have to suffer torture and experience what mortals call "death"? Because that was His mission. Mark tells us (10:45), "*For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*"

Thus it was with Jesus. He came into a world filled with intolerance, and injustice; a world where men followed the "party line," and any who attempted to challenge the established order were obliged to recant or be put to death. He had a gift to offer more precious than earthly freedom--the gift of eternal life.

Few could accept the gift. The ultimate in human agony would be required of Jesus. When it was all over, a few would know the glorious truth. They would "*go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature*".

And, since "*The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant before his Lord*" (Matt. 10:24) we too, must be ready to make sacrifices. There is no crown for those who will not share the burden of the cross.

The "*burden of the cross*" is not something we have but something we need. It is the brokenness needed for our human pride and self-sufficiency. It is the pouring out of God's forgiveness for our sinfilled thoughts, words, and deeds. It is our need to experience a broken and contrite human spirit, necessary to receive the fullness of God's love.