

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 17, 1981

Organ Prelude: "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed"  
\*Processional Hymn 161  
\*Solemn Declaration, Psalm 119:153-156 (p.548)  
\*Gloria Patri and Collect  
The Holy Scriptures:  
Old Testament: Isaiah 52:1-13 to  
53:12 (p.648)  
Epistle: Heb. 4:14-16, 5:7-9 (p.210)  
\*Gloria Tibi #497  
\*Gospel: John 19:17-30 (p.109)  
\*Laus Tibi #497  
Sermon: "Suffered, Crucified, Dead And  
Buried"  
\*The Nicene Creed, p. 24 162  
Hymn  
Announcements and Moments of Concern -  
Collection of Attendance/Communion Cards -  
(Pass to Center Aisle)  
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory: "Jesus Hangs Upon The Cross" Bach  
Dedication of Tithes and Offerings, Doxology  
Senior Choir Anthem: "Drop, Drop Slow Tears"  
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 Man Weep For Thy Great  
Redeemer" Bach  
  
\*Congregation Standing

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.