



Silent Meditation

Understandings of Atonement or “At-one-ment” *how are we made one with God*

Sacrificial Theory: Jesus is the unblemished lamb sacrificed for the sin of humanity as in Old Testament theology.

Satisfaction Theory: Jesus embraced death to make amends for the offenses of humanity and, in doing so, satisfied God's honor.

Penal Substitution Theory: Because humans have sinned and wounded God's honor they deserve the wrath of God ...As our substitute, Jesus absorbed the wrath of God's punishment against sin, restored God's honor, and so enables us to escape God's wrath.

Moral Example Theory: Jesus lived and died a moral life and by embracing his example we can find salvation from sin, learn to love God and others, and even sacrifice our lives for the good of others.

Process Theology: Atonement is rooted in the loving nature of God who reconciles the world in every moment of time. Atonement is relational, including restoration, peace, and justice for humans and all creation

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

April 7, 2019

Gathering Music

Kathleen Smith

Welcome and Announcements

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers
might have the opportunity to sign them.)*

Opening Voluntary

Kathleen Smith

* Invocation (*in unison*)

Nishi Griffin

Come, O Holy Spirit, dwell within our hearing, our seeing, our speaking and our singing. Fill us with the knowledge and love of Christ, who emptied himself of any pretense of power so that we might encounter the grace of the God from whom he came. Come, O Holy Spirit, open our minds and our hearts so that we may grasp the promise of this One who died on the cross. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

Nishi Griffin

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of God's peace, for the peace of Christ is here to stay.

Many: Thanks be to God.

* *All rise in body or spirit* ☩ *Sing Response* ✕ *Hymnals located below pews*

Refrain: **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim;
Let all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.**

1. **Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Sav-ior trod,
The Lamb vic-to-rious, Christ the Child of God. (*Refrain*)**
2. **Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied
Bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. (*Refrain*)**
3. **O Christ, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree,
Your death has brought us life e-ter-nal-ly. (*Refrain*)**

Medley

Lisa Cloninger, Shea Watts

Children’s Offering & Message

Nancy Ellett Allison

(Following the Children’s Message, preschoolers go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children’s Church.)

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 22 selections

Kristin Andes

Then (the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him) seized Jesus and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house....Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, ‘Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?’ They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought Jesus to their council. They said, ‘If you are the Messiah, tell us.’ He replied, ‘If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.’ All of them asked, ‘Are you, then, the Son of God?’ He said to them, ‘You say that I am.’ Then they said, ‘What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!’

Luke 23 selections

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!'

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Call to Prayer

"Return to God"

by Marty Haugen

Refrain

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the

Source of grace and mer - cy; come seek the ten - der

faith - ful - ness of God.

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Adapted from a prayer by Howard Thurman

The concern, which I lay before God today, is my concern for the life of the world in these troubled times. I confess my own inner confusion as I look out upon the world. There is food for all - many are hungry. There are clothes enough for all - many are in rags. There is room enough for all - many are crowded. There are none who want war - preparations for conflict abound.

I confess my own share in the ills of the times. I have shirked my own responsibilities as a citizen. I have been concerned about my own little job, my own little security, my own shelter, my own bread. I have not really cared about jobs for others, security for others, shelter for others, bread for others. I have silenced my own voice that it may not be heard on the side of any cause, however right, if it meant running risks or damaging my own little reputation.

Forgive me O God, Let Thy light burn in me that I may, from this moment on, take effective steps within my own power, to live up to the light and to courageously pay for the kind of world I so deeply desire. Renew my soul as together we pray, Our God in whom is heaven, hallowed be your name... (*Lord's Prayer, using sins, sinner*)

Anthem

"In Feast or Fallow"
by Sandra McCracken

Music Cooperative

When the fields are dry, and the winter is long
Blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor.
When my soul is downcast, and my voice has no song
For mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord.

Chorus: In the harvest feast or the fallow ground
My certain hope is in Jesus found.
My lot, my cup, my portion sure
Whatever comes, we shall endure;
Whatever comes, we shall endure.

On a cross of wood, His blood was outpoured
Christ rose from the ground, like a bird to the sky
Bringing peace to our violence, and crushing death's door
Our Maker incarnate, our God who provides. (Chorus)

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes
Not a sparrow falls, nor a hair from my head
Without Christ's hand to guide me, my shield and my strength
In joy or in sorrow, in life or in death. (Chorus)

Assurance of Pardon Fred Robinson
As from the cross Jesus flung forgiveness into the world, so may we know
and live that forgiveness today. May courage be our witness to the
faithfulness of God!

Epistle Lesson Philippians 2:3-13 Keith Dennis
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in
the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be
exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in
human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and
became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God
also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to
the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always
obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work
out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in
you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.**

Sermon "Cross Purposes" Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation Fred Robinson

Offertory Music Kathleen Smith

* Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

☩ Our God is making all things new,
A promise that we know is true.
Through eyes of faith we long to see
A love-transformed community. Amen.

* Offertory Dedication

Fred Robinson

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

One: When we break bread and share the cup, we focus on the power of love to bring wholeness to all. We invite all who celebrate Christ's life and love to join us at this table of fellowship.

Words of Institution

Nancy Ellett Allison

Prayer of Consecration

Fred Robinson

*Communion is received by intinction. Please take bread or a gluten free wafer and dip it into the cup to receive both elements.
The Communion elements are bread and grape juice.*

Music during Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

**We give thanks to you our God for sustaining us for the journey;
For bringing love, life, health and holiness,
For bringing us closer to you,
For knowing you are with us in our waiting;
You are with us in our living. Amen.**

* Hymn 198

**"Lift High the Cross"
verse 5**

CRUCIFER

**Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim;
Let all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.**

**5. So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be:
Praise to the Cru-ci-fies for vic-to-ry. (*Refrain*)**

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude

Kathleen Smith

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

MIGRANT BUS MINISTRY

Winter coats, snacks, toiletries and diapers are being collected to give to migrants as they pass through Charlotte on the Greyhound bus route on their journey to pursuit asylum. A collection box is available in the Gathering Room. See Suzanne Lamorey, suzlam@yahoo.com, with questions or to participate in this welcoming.

MICHAEL G. BROOKS SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was created to encourage youth in both their educational growth and service to God. This scholarship is a result of the lives and generosity of Barry Holcomb and his partner, the late Michael G. Brooks - for whom the scholarship is named. Applications must be submitted by April 30. Applicants will be notified no later than May 31, 2019, and the scholarship will be awarded on a Sunday soon afterward. Obtain the application by contacting Associate Pastor Fred Robinson, fredrick@holycovenantucc.org, or the church office, office@holycovenantucc.org.

PHOTO SESSION MAKEUP DAY, APRIL 8, 2:30-9 PM

The makeup day for photographs for our church directory is Monday, April 8th. Sessions will begin at 2:30 PM and will end at 7:30 PM. Please email or call Terry to get you and your family scheduled, tldennis2@hotmail.com or 704-785-7150. An alternative to have your photo in the church directory is by sending your photo to Dawn, office@holycovenantucc.org, in a JPEG or PDF format, (landscape please). It will be included in the directory.

BOOK CLUB, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 10:30 AM

We will meet at 10:30 AM at South Park Christian Church. This discussion will be lead by Faye Humphrey and our special guest Tommy Tomlinson, as they review his recent release *The Elephant in the Room*.

Holy Week Services

PALM & PASSION SUNDAY, APRIL 14

We begin in celebration with our palms and the coming of Jesus into Jerusalem. We will then transition to Passion Sunday as the Music Cooperative and Chancel Choir lead us in worship. Join us for this service of remembering the seven last words of Jesus.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 18, SUPPER & WORSHIP 6 PM

Reflecting on our Care for Immigrants

We will begin with readings from the Exodus and Psalms as we reflect on the immigrants who are also fleeing repression. We will celebrate communion around the tables as we prepare our hearts for the receiving of the message of Holy week and Easter.

The Hospitality Committee will be providing spaghetti, salad, bread and beverages for our Maundy Thursday worship service. There is no fee for dinner we ask that you **BRING SUPPLIES FOR IMMIGRANTS**: Infant and Child Tylenol, Baby Wipes, Knit Hats, Sweatshirts, refried beans. **BRING DESSERT** to share and a bottle of wine if you like.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE, APRIL 21, 10:55 AM

BRING FRESH FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS

Join us as we worship through song and Word to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection and new life. Special music will feature the Chancel Choir, the Music Cooperative, vocalists and instrumentalists.

(We will not have an early service this year.)

BRING YOUR FILLED EGGS BY APRIL 14 FOR THE EASTER EGG HUNT

For this year's Easter Egg Hunt we are asking folks to bring 1-2 dozen plastic eggs with goodies (no chocolate please). There will be a drop box the gathering room to leave your filled eggs. If you can help with the hunt, contact Jennifer Curlee in the Preschool/Nursery.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter Egg Hunt with separate search sites for our older and younger children will follow our 10:55 worship service.

HCUCC YOGA4ALL NEXT MEET APRIL 24, 7:30 PM

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities.
Contact David Smith for information, davidsmith02b@gmail.com.

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder for April: Suzanne Lamorey, Suzlam@yahoo.com or 704-654-7267

Deacons for April: Martha Bomely, Cheryl Milam

Greeters: Donna Collins, Vondalyn McQueen-Simmons

Ushers: JP Griffin, Kelly Gimlin, Jill Gregg

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger

Tabulators: Kelly Gimlin, Alice Phelan

Refreshments: Eileen Howe, Gussie Spencer

Recyclers: Kristin Andes, Tom Magraw

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Steven, Brittany & Owen Burluson, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Phyllis Johnson, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Sue & Bill Pascucci, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Caroline Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Shane Christian (Beth Sharp), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Tammie & Charles Edenfield (Donna Collins), David & Cecelia Griffin (JP Griffin), Will & Addie Mae Hong (Jim Hong), Ron Mann (Robert Shepherd), Becki Minich & Heather O'Donnell (Eileen Howe), Tony Morand (Lloyd & Gussie Spencer), David Owens (Donna Collins), Roshani Parikh (Nishi Griffin), Joe Robinson (Bill & Kim Tyler), Ken & Evelyn Sell (Robert Shepherd), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Chris Shepherd (Robert Shepherd), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), John Teague (Donna Collins), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary West (John Rapp), Wanda Williams (John Rapp)

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor

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Rev. Fred Robinson, Associate Pastor

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Mr. Shea Watts, Director of Music Ministries

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