



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
APRIL 7, 2023

Silent Prayer of Preparation

The innocent servant suffers today, surely Christ has borne our sins. Our prayer has been desperate as we approached Good Friday, the day Jesus was crucified and buried. Help us in our faith as we trust in this great sacrifice that will forever change us and the world. For we have a great high priest who knows our weaknesses, and we trust in the powerful deliverance of a resurrected Christ. Amen.

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: We will face the betrayal and denial.

Leader: God is not only God in joy, but also in sorrow.

People: We will witness the horror and heart break.

Leader: This too, is the day the Lord has made.

People: We will tell of God's deliverance.

***Prayer of the Day**

***Hymn**

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#213

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** *(read in unison)*

O Christ, Son of God, we want so desperately to look away. We want to turn away from your suffering; we do not want to witness your death. We choke on our own cries of "Crucify!" and are ashamed of our silence in the face of hatred. We still ignore suffering, we still hurt the innocent, we still betray those we love, we still care more about ourselves than those who are in pain. Yet we trust in your mercy, asking your forgiveness while knowing we do not deserve it. Jesus Christ, have mercy on us sinners, not according to our works, but your inconceivable love. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”, vs. 1

#223

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 22

Choir Anthem

“Golgotha’s Cross”

David Tinker, 1931

By the side of the road upon Golgotha’s hill
Stood the old wooden cross with its soul saving rill.
From the side of my Savior in darkness that day
Came the hope of my soul as his life fled away.
(refrain) Oh, the old wooden cross upon Golgotha’s hill
With the blood of my Savior, the soul saving rill.
Oh, the blood, for he bleeds for my soul!
Oh, the blood, yes the blood that my Savior shed there
Was the price of my sins and my burdens of care.
What a price of enduring the cross and the shame
What a fruit of his joy as for me, bless his name. (refrain)
Oh, my soul, take a plunge in that fountain of blood
Wash your robe; make it white as the snow in that blood.
Oh, my soul, at your side stands your Savior with love
Take the plunge, for he pleads in his love. (refrain)

Second Scripture Reading

John 18:1-19:42

Jesus Arrested

Peter’s First Denial

The High Priest Questions Jesus

Peter’s Second and Third Denials

Jesus Before Pilate

Jesus Sentenced to be Crucified

The Crucifixion of Jesus

The Death of Jesus

The Burial of Jesus

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response to the Word

***The Solemn Intercession**

***Hymn**

“O Sacred Head”

#221

***Solemn Reproaches of the Cross**

The Sending of God’s People

***Closing Hymn**

“Were You There”

Cindy Newman, soloist

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Prayer of Silence

All depart in silence.

Pastors: Steve Watters
Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd
Organist: Carol Welk