



## Good Friday

April 15, 2022

Prelude

Welcoming

### Lighting the Christ Candle

Each new day reminds us of the light that dwells within us—the light God has placed deep within our hearts.

We light the Christ Candle, remembering that we are made of light and love, remembering that we are called to bring light and love to others and the world.

### Call to Worship

Let us remember

**how the sky went dark.**

Let us remember

**how Jesus' mother was there.**

Let us remember

**how people mocked him.**

Let us remember

**how his friends fled.**

Let us remember

**how in the midst of all that, Jesus still chose love.**

Let us worship holy God.

### Call to Confession

Good Friday belongs to confession.

For on this day, we hold up to the light everything that went wrong 2,000 years ago; and as we do, we are reminded of everything that is going wrong in the present day.

So we breathe deeply.

We bow our heads.

We speak the truth out loud about who we long to be, and we trust that God is already reaching out for us as we speak.

Knowing that, let us pray together...

### Prayer of Confession

**God of unfathomable mercy, if we were there, we'd like to think that we would have defended you.**

**We'd like to think that we would have stopped the guards and silenced the mockery, protected your body and defended your name.**

**However, if we're honest with ourselves, we probably would have been at the edge of the crowd—silent and afraid.**

**How often are we silent and afraid?**

**How often do we wait for the stones to cry out for us?**

**Forgive us.**

**Please forgive us. Amen.**

### Words of Forgiveness

Even from his place on the cross, even while being met with cruelty and violence, Jesus overflows with truth and grace.

He sees those around him.

He speaks connection and belonging into existence.

He offers forgiveness.

Friends, if this is true from the cross, it is certainly true here.

We are surrounded by grace.

**We are held in love.**

We are forgiven—over and over again.

**That truth never changes.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## Opening Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

(Voices United 149)

Words: Isaac Watts 1707

Music: second supplement to *Psalmody in Miniature*, ca. 1780;  
adapt. Edward Miller 1790; harm. Samuel Webbe (1740 p 1816)

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- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God:  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small:  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:1-56

Reflection: "24 Hours That Changed the World"

## Affirmation of Faith

We believe that the crucifixion shows us the worst in humanity—  
**violence inflicted on the innocent,  
shame poured out in excess,  
mockery for the sake of mockery,  
and abandonment of those we love.**

We believe that Jesus shows us the best in humanity—  
**grace where grace is undeserved,  
humility in the face of power,  
justice in the face of oppression,  
love that overcomes.**

So today, as one voice, we choose  
**the latter.**

We choose  
**love.**

We choose  
**grace.**

We choose  
**one another.**

We choose  
**to remember.**

Let it be so.

**Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day: O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile

(Voices United 136)

Words: Frederick William Faber 1849, alt.; Music: John Bacchus Kykes 1861  
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- 1 O come and mourn with me awhile;  
O come now to the Saviour's side;  
O come, together let us mourn:  
Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

2 Have we no tears to shed for him,  
while soldiers scoff and foes deride?  
Ah! Look how patiently he hangs:  
Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

3 Seven times he spake, seven words of love;  
and all three hours his silence cried  
for mercy on the souls of all:  
Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

4 O love of God! O sin-filled world!  
In this dread act your strength is tried,  
and victory remains with love:  
Jesus, our Love, is crucified.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Parting Hymn: Were You There** (Voices United 144)

*Words: African-American spiritual;*

*Music: African-American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen 1987*

*Arrangement © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen*

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1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
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?

2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3 Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

4 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
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?

### **Benediction**

Jesus walked the chosen path, facing the court of humankind, a court of self-interest, selfishness, and proclaimed entitlement.

His supporters abandoned him, leaving him to face his fate.

He was alone, almost, with his mother, Mary, his aunt, and one disciple left.

His mother watched in pain to see her son bow his head and give up his spirit.

On this Good Friday, we too watch in pain, knowing what humankind is capable of.

We pray for Jesus' spirit to live on in us.

We pray for Jesus' life to fill our lives with hope, even as he hangs on the cross.

We pray for Jesus' love to propel us forward to our chosen path, the path of Jesus.

We stand by the cross of Jesus in wonder and dismay.

**We stand like the beloved few who watched him die.**

We remember the disciple who removed Jesus' body before  
sundown.

**We watch as the day becomes night and the path leads to the grave.**

We see the spices of myrrh and aloe, gifts of great love, as they are  
borne to the grave.

**We bear to the tomb our love, our fear, our grief, our hope—gifts of  
our great love.**

We begin the long waiting...through the night and into another day,  
and yet another night.

**We wait in night's darkness for the light of God's dawn.**

Let us go in peace and hope.

Postlude

*Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker*

*Music Leader – James Yi*

*Vocalists – Peggy Dayton and Lorne Holland*

*Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey*

*Scripture Reading – Edward Hickcox*

*Technical Support – Sam Boehner and Bob Krueckl*