

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Good Friday

April 18, 2025

12:00 Noon

PRELUDE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded  
Were You There

Johannes Brahms  
Uzee Brown Jr.

WELCOME

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:

So they took Jesus, and he went out carrying his own cross, to the place of a skull, called in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him.

People:

This is not a day for mourning but for awe, wonder, love and gratitude. All you daughters of faith, glorify God. All you sons of faith, stand in awe before God. All you who bow in reverence, praise God.

\* HYMN #215

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul  
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
When I was sinking down beneath God’s righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

adapted from Isiah 53:4-6

You carry our burdens, Lord. These, the simplest and gravest of sins, are magnified in our life together, amplified in the actions of powers and principalities. Selfishness, revenge and violence unfold on the largest scale, bringing forth misery and destruction in our world every day.

You carry all of our burdens. You are wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities. Yet in your suffering you make us one, in your bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray, we have all turned to our own way. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Lead us from death to life....(time to offer silent prayers of confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader:

Friends, the wondrous love of God reigns, all the way to the cross, and forever more. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People:

Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 18:1-27  
Biblical storytelling by Kathy Smedley

SILENT REFLECTION

\* HYMN #223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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.

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.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e’re such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

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.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19:1-12, 16-25a  
Biblical storytelling by Kathy Smedley

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN #221

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

(remain seated)

O sacred head, now wounded,  
with grief and shame weighed down;  
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;  
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners’ gain:  
Mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! ‘Tis I deserve thy place;  
Look on me with thy favor, and grant to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,  
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?  
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19:25b-37  
Biblical storytelling by Kathy Smedley

SILENT REFLECTION

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM INTO CHRIST

During the following hymn, you are invited to come to the baptismal font, as you are led by the Spirit, to remember your baptism. You may touch the water, make a sign of the cross on your forehead, or your hand, and remember that you belong to God through Jesus Christ, sharing in his death and resurrection life.

\* HYMN #228

Were You There?

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?

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?

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?

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?

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?

CLOSING PRAYER

WORK OF THE PEOPLE VIDEO

Love Poured Out, Hope Unbroken

SENDING

The bell will toll nine times – signifying the “ninth hour” of the day (3:00 p.m.) as recorded in the gospels, when Jesus breathed his last. Following the bells, this Good Friday service will conclude in silence.

\* Please rise in body or in Spirit

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**Were You There**

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**HOLY SATURDAY, April 19**

Saturday, April 19, 5:00 p.m. – Taizé Easter Vigil Service

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 20**

6:00 am Sunrise Service with communion

8:15 am Traditional Service with choir, brass and bell choir

9:30 am Traditional Service with choir, brass and bell choir;  
children’s programming

11:00am Contemporary Service with worship collective;  
children’s programming

9:30 Service: Nursery care provided for children 4 and under

11:00 Service: Nursery care provided for children 4 and under  
WeeConnect and KidsConnect will have special activities  
at both the 9:30 and 11:00 am services

We invite you to give in ways that you feel led. Offering boxes  
are located by the doors in the middle aisle of the sanctuary if  
you would like to leave an offering.

**Worship Leadership**

Liturgists: Pastor Leah Hrachovec, Chris Clark, Kathy Smedley

Vocalist Joanne Ebert

Music Leader: Kirsten Santos Rutschman



**Westminster**  
Presbyterian Church

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IT IS FINISHED  
This haunts the world:  
Love crossed out,  
Hammered, thorned,  
As if beauty, or truth,  
Or holiness,  
Could ever be broken,  
Smudged out forever.

What is finished  
Is evil’s dream  
To nail hope down.

There are plenty of crosses  
Still--

Tears, pain, sorrow, fear,  
Hearts speared, aching.

And this, too,  
Wonder of wonders,  
Love.

The thing that  
never  
dies.

--Timothy Haut, Deep River, CT

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Knowing Christ, Making Christ Known*

**Good Friday Worship**

April 18, 2025  
12:00 PM



Behold the Lamb of God  
who takes away  
the sin of the world!  
John 1:29