



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH
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B4N 3M7



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Friday, April 7th, 2023, 7:00 pm

Good Friday

Music as We Gather

Solo: **God Weeps** MV #78 vs. 1-3

Gathering

Call to Worship:

Come, let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ.

We gather to remember the overwhelming evidence of Love's ultimate sacrifice.

Who would have guessed that the height and depth, the length and width of God's love might look like this: a forsaken savior on a cross?

Certainly not us! Not us, who are too often, lost amid the world's distractions and responsibilities. Not us, for whom such love was offered without cost.

Let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ and commit ourselves to remember the price paid. Let us live our lives in a way that indicates why this Friday is called "Good."

**Thanks be to God, who opened the gates of heaven,
that we might have the faith, hope, and love,
witnessed in Christ's sacrifice for our salvation.**

*** Hymn:** "What Wondrous Love Is This" VU #147

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.

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 life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Christ, at times we act as if we do not know you, at times we say of you, "Away with him!" When we think of those times we weep and ask you to forgive us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*** Hymn: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" VU #133**

Go to dark Gethsemane,
you that feel the tempter's power;
 your Redeemer's conflict see;
 watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his grief away:
learn from him to watch and pray.

See him at the judgement hall,
beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;
 see him meekly bearing all;
 love to all his soul sustained.
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss:
learn from Christ to bear the cross.

Calvary's mournful mountain view;
there the Lord of glory see,
 made a sacrifice for you,
 dying on the accursed tree.
'It is finished,' hear his cry:
trust in Christ and learn to die.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Introduction:

First Station: The Trial

Mark 15: 1-15

Second Station: Bearing the Cross

John 19: 13-17

Third Station: The First Fall

Luke 4:28-29

Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Mother

John 19:25b-27

*** Hymn:** "They Crucified My Lord" VU #141

They crucified my Lord, they crucified my Lord,

Refrain:

And he never said a mumbalin' word

Not a word, not a word, not a word.

They nailed him to a tree, they nailed him to a tree

Refrain

They pierced him in the side, they pierced him in the side

Refrain

The blood came tricklin' down, the blood came tricklin'
down,

Refrain

He bowed his head and died, he bowed his head and died,

Refrain

Fifth Station: Simon Helps Jesus

Luke 23:26-28

Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes Jesus Face

Matthew 25:31-40

Seventh Station: The Second Fall

Psalm 38:6-22

Eighth Station: Meeting the Women

Luke 23:27-31

*** Hymn:** "Said Judas to Mary"

VU #129

Said Judas to Mary, 'Now what will you do
with your ointment so rich and so rare?'
'I'll pour it all over the feet of the Lord
and I'll wipe it away with my hair,' she said,
'wipe it away with my hair.'

'Oh Mary, oh Mary, oh think of the poor -
this ointment, it could have been sold,
and think of the blankets and think of the bread
you could buy with the silver and gold,' he said,
'buy with the silver and gold.'

'Tomorrow, tomorrow I'll think of the poor,
tomorrow,' she said, 'not today;
for dearer than all of the poor in the world
is my love who is going away,' she said,
'my love who is going away.'

Said Jesus to Mary, 'Your love is so deep,
today you may do as you will.
Tomorrow you say I am going away,

but my body I leave with you still,' he said,
'my body I leave with you still.'

'The poor of the world are my body,' he said,
'to the end of the world they shall be;
the bread and the blankets you give to the poor
you'll know, you have given to me,' he said,
'you'll know you have given to me.'

'My body will hang on the cross of the world,
tomorrow,' he said, 'not today,
and Martha and Mary will find me again
and wash all my sorrow away,' he said,
'wash all my sorrow away.'

Ninth Station: The Third Fall

Matthew 26:37-40

Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped naked

John 19:23-25

Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross

Luke 23:33-43

Twelfth Station: Jesus dies

Matthew 27:45-54

Litany of Diminishing Light:

The parade is over. The laments, the denials, the excuses,
the betrayals are over. In fact, it is all over. Shadows have
replaced light; fear has swallowed hope. It is finished.

What now?

(The Christ Candle is extinguished)

Anthem:

God So Loved the World

By R Stainer

Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Thirteenth Station: His body is taken down

John 19:38-40

Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb

Matthew 27:57-61

*** Hymn:**

“Were You There”

VU #144

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 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 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 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:

Gracious God, as we depart from here this most solemn of evenings, help us to reflect upon what we have seen and heard, to take to ourselves what you have done for us this day.

**Make us a people of faith and courage in order that
we might find our way through these dark hours,
as we await the rising of your Son on Easter
morning. Amen.**

All depart in silence as soloist sings...