April 10th, Good Friday 2020 - Orono United Church online

Introduction

Centering Words (John 18–19)

Walk with Jesus as he takes his final earthly steps. Observe the ordinary people who cared for the body of the Word made flesh. Find yourself in faith's most difficult hour.

Call to Worship (Ps 22)

O God, our God, in you our ancestors trusted, to you they cried aloud.

Since before our mothers bore us, you have been our God.

Do not be far from us, for trouble is near.

Source of refuge, come quickly to our aid.

Lest we forget the cost of discipleship, let us remember faith's hardest story to bear.

With humble and open hearts, let us worship our God.

Hymn: There Is A Green Hill Far Away

Opening Prayer (John 18–19, Heb 10, Ps 22)

Give us strength, O God, to bear the cross with you this day. Comforted by your faithfulness and encouraged by the presence of sisters and brothers that we know are around us, lead on, O Jesus, lead on. Amen.

Stations of the Cross - Leland Bell and Gordon Giltrap

Prayer of Confession (John 18–19)

O God, our comforter in life and death, Jesus' dying day reminds us of your embodied love and of our own power to do and permit harm. For our sins of commission and omission, we ask your forgiveness, in Christ's name.

Words of Assurance (Heb 10)

Beloved, know that God walks with us and remains in covenant with us, saying:

"I will put my laws in their hearts and write them in their minds; I will remember their sins no more."

God's loving heart is greater than any of us can imagine. Know that you are loved. Know that you are forgiven. Amen.

Gospel Reading: John 19: 13-30

Responsive Prayer:

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you raise us up – our spirits, our expectations, our hopes.

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you raise us up.

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you hold us close: when all seems lost, when hard times come, when we don't know where else to turn.

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you hold us close.

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you lead us forward – beyond our dreams, to places we didn't expect, or even want to go: to a new life and way.

Jesus Christ, lover of all, you lead us forward.

And we will follow. Jesus Christ, lover of all, help us to follow you.

Anthem: My Song is Love Unknown

THE SOLDIER – Iona Community

Hymn: Were You There

I THIRST – Iona Community

Hymn: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

IT IS FINISHED – Iona Community

Hymn: Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross

Sunday's Coming