

Good Friday 2021

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (based on Isaiah 53:1-3)

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with you, too.

One: We are here to worship God.

All: We are here to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us and to be thankful for God's love and mercy.

One: Who has believed our message and to whom has the Lord been revealed?

All: He grew up before God like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

One: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.

All: Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Hymn #152

“There Is A Green Hill Far Away”

Prayer of Approach:

One: Let us pray.

All: Merciful God - as we remember how your son Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross and how he spoke words of love, we ask you to bless us as we listen to those words again.

One: Loving God, as we recall how Jesus cried out for mercy on the souls of every single one of us, we ask you to help us understand the mystery of your love, and make us into a people who are ever more worthy of it.

All: Amen.

**Anthem: Music – “Inner Dream” by Gordon Giltrap
Images by Leland Bell**

Hymn #145 “O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded”

First Reading: Luke 23:33-34

Reflection

Hymn #144 “Were You There?” First Verse:

**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?**

Second Reading: Luke 23:39-43

Reflection

**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?**

Third Reading: Matthew 27:45-46

Reflection

**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?**

Fourth Reading: **John 19:28-30**

Reflection

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?

Fifth Reading: **Luke 23:46**

Reflection

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?

“Your Will Is Done”

Prayer of the People (Said together)

Gracious God of grief and of suffering, this Friday seems ‘good’ for all the wrong reasons. Be with us as we gather in the shadow of the cross of Christ and hear again the story of death and the sounds of burial.

This is not where we would choose to be, O God, brought face to face with this symbol of death and instrument of torture.

Forgive us, where we have sought to avoid such times: where we have ignored the cross or denied our own pain, or turned our backs on the sufferings of others. Strengthen us here today, that we may

know that you are here with us.

You know the ways of the world, O God: you have been there; you are here; you have loved and cried and lived and died to be with us, to comfort us, to forgive us and to free us.

For this we give thanks. This we call 'good.' Amen.

Hymn #149 "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

Mini movie from Shift – "Finished"

Sunday's Coming

Blessing

One: May you find in the cross a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven. And may the blessing of God go with you, now and for ever more.

All: Amen.

Postlude