

Westminster United Church

Good Friday Worship Service Friday April 19th, 2019

Rev. Sherri McConnell, Minister Don Menzies, Organist Nathan Poole, Director of Music in Worship Rebecca McIntosh, Jennifer Turner, Fred Simpson Soloists

Welcome to this Good Friday service. In this morning's service, the story of Good Friday will be shared using both the New Revised Standard Version Bible and Eugene Petersen's, The Message. Please note we will remain seated for the singing of the hymns. When the service ends, after the tolling of the bells, 33 times to mark what is thought to be Jesus' 33 years of life, we will leave in silence.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One. **The love of Jesus refused to compromise with the powerful.** Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One. **The love of Jesus took the tough but faithful road.** Love calls us here, the love of the crucified One. **The love of Jesus struggled with the easy way out.** Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One **The love of Jesus endured the fear, the denial, the rejection of his friends.**

It is the love of Jesus that calls us here.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN VU 133 Go to Dark Gethsemane

OPENING THE STORY

HYMN VU 152 There Is a Green Hill Far Away

REMEMBERING THE STORY

IN THE GARDEN (Mark 14: 32-37; 39-42)

Choir: MV 90 Don't Be Afraid

by John L. Bell and Graham Maule

1st Candle is extinguished

Silence

BETRAYAL AND ARREST (Mark 14: 43-50)

Solo: O My Boy: Jesus my First and Only Son From The Confession Stone. Music by Robert Fleming, words by Owen Dobson Given by Jennifer Turner

2nd Candle is extinguished

Silence

CONDEMNATION AND DENIAL (Mark 14: 53-72)

3rd Candle is extinguished

Silence

JESUS BEFORE PILATE (Mark 15: 1-15)

Solo: The Sorrow of Saint John

Words by Hermon Ould, Music by David Carter given by Fred Simpson

4th Candle is extinguished

Silence

CROWN OF THORNS (March 15: 16-20)

5th Candle is extinguished

Silence

CRUCIFIED (Mark 15: 25-32)

Anthem: And No Bird Sang

Words and Music by Douglas E. Wagner

6th candle extinguished

Silence

THE LAST (Mark 15: 33-38)

Solo: Cold and Icy in my Bed

From The Confession Stone. Music by Robert Fleming, words by Owen Dobson Given by Rebecca McIntosh

The Christ Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

One: We come to the cross,

We look up,

We see the broken Christ,

And we pray for those broken in our world.

We pray for refugees who have had to flee from their homes and communities,

We pray for children forced to fight and those exploited, We pray for those caught in the midst of war and violent forces We pray for those hated by their neighbours or bullied by their peers.

We pray for those with little voice, oppressed, dominated and marginalized by systems and powers that crush spirits and collude economically, politically, religiously.....

All: We pray for the broken.

One: We come to the cross,

We look up.

see the suffering Christ,

And we pray for those suffering in our communities

the homeless,

the abused,

the neglected, the forgotten,

the lonely and the alone

those we know who are sick, for family members, friends, and for members of our faith community...

For those who have lost loved ones and continue to find their way...

For those whose focus is only to survive and have had to put dreams or hopes to one side.

All: We pray for the suffering.

One: We come to the cross,

We look up.

We see an abandoned Christ.

We bring to mind those whose friends have let them down,

whose fears dominate and control,

We bring to mind the unemployed and rejected,

children who are not loved; relationships that are not loving

All: We pray for those abandoned.

One: We come to the cross,

We look up,

and Christ surrounds us

We feel reflections of his helplessness,

We are aware of those parts of our own spirits and lives which are suffering,

We wish that our friends would be there for us.

We know how, in our deepest pain, we seek to feel God, hear God,

to know we are not alone

And as we reflect on our own needs,

As we reflect upon the needs of our world

We hang onto a relentless faith that seeks nothing but God

All: And we wait...

Hymn VU 144 Were You There vs. 1,3,5

THE BURIAL (Mark 15: 42-47)

Choir: MV 90 Don't Be Afraid

by John L. Bell and Graham Maule

Silence

CLOSING WORDS

TOLLING OF THE BELLS

LEAVE IN SILENCE

We leave with somber emotions the story of this day brings, yet with the assurance and knowledge that death is not the final word. Please return to join in our Easter celebration Sunday morning at 10:30.



Westminster United Church

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