

OPENING PRAYER

†HYMN #85

“Were You There” (v. 1,2,3)

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 heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the heavy cross 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!

WE APPROACH WITH PENITENCE

One: Let us together pray:

**All: Before you die, Jesus Christ, and the world goes into deep darkness,  
take from our lives, from our souls, from our consciences, all that has  
offended you, all that has hurt others, and the intransigence which  
has made us numb to the plight of those whom we could help or heal.**

WE PAUSE TO ASK, ‘WHY, O LORD?’

*taken from Isaiah 53*

One: Why, O Lord?

Why did you need to come and suffer so?

Why were you so despised and rejected?

Why did you become a man of suffering and acquainted with grief?

Why did you become as one from whom others hide their faces?

Why?

**All: We know you were oppressed and afflicted.**

**You were like a lamb led to the slaughter.**

**By a perversion of justice, you were led away.**

**Why, O Lord, why?**

One: Was it to bear our infirmities and carry our diseases?

Was it to be wounded for our transgressions

and crushed for our iniquities?

**All: Was the punishment you bore what makes us whole?**

**Was it by your bruises that we are healed?**

**Answer us, O Lord.**

MEDITATION

The Cross & the Cellar

Morton Kelsey

SONG

How Deep the Father’s Love for Us  
(Second Mile Band)

PSALM READING

Selections from Psalm 22

MEDITATION

FIRST READING

Luke 22:39-53

SECOND READING

John 18:12-14

ANTHEM

Go to Dark Gethsemane  
(Chancel Choir)

THIRD READING

Luke 22:54b-62

REFLECTION

It Is Done, Watchman Nee

ENSEMBLE

Ah, Holy Jesus

FOURTH READING

John 18:19-23

REFLECTION

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley  
(Don Gaylord, guitar)

FIFTH READING

Matthew 27:1-2

PRAYER

ANTHEM

Beneath the Cross of Jesus  
(Chancel Choir)

SIXTH READING

Matthew 27:3-10

SEVENTH READING

John 18:33-38

EIGHTH READING

Matthew 27:15-24

HYMN #98

**O Sacred Head, Now Wounded**

**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, Vouch safe 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 ne,  
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to Thee.**

NINTH READING

Matthew 27:26-31

SONG

At the Cross (Love Ran Red)  
(Second Mile Band)

TENTH READING

Matthew 27:32-37; John 19:20b-21

ELEVENTH READING

Luke 23:35, 39-43

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
(Second Mile Band)

LITANY

One: Come to the cross and feel the weight of the world.

**All: We bring the weight of our sins.**

One: Come to the cross and feel the weight of the world.

**All: We bring the weight of our desertions and our betrayals.**

One: Come to the cross and feel the weight of the world.

**All: We bring the weight of our accusations and our scorn.**

One: Come to the cross and feel the weight of the world.

**All: We bring the weight of our lives.**

TWELFTH READING

Psalm 22:6-8, 14-15; Lamentations 1:12, 16, 22

THIRTEENTH READING      Isaiah 53:7-8

FOURTEENTH READING      Matthew 27:45-54

THE STREPIDUS

SOLO      Were You There  
(Chris Jackson)

FIFTEENTH READING      John 19:30

SENDING FORTH

*There is no benediction for this service, as this is not the end of the story. The story, and the service continues with our celebration of the resurrection Easter Sunday morning at 10:00am.*

*We leave this night in silence and in darkness, not because God is silent or darkness has won, but to help us remember and appreciate the gift, and the cost of the gift, that Christ gives us in and through his life, death and resurrection.*



**Worship Leaders**  
Rev. Chip Stapleton, Senior Pastor  
Pam Langston, Director of Music Ministries



**APRIL 7, 2023**  
**7:00pm**

**HIGHLAND  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

*SHARING GOD'S LOVE*

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## *Good Friday*

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*Tenebrae, from the Latin word for “shadows,” has been observed in the church of Jesus Christ since the fourth century, on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday. During the service, different readers will recall the events that led Jesus to the cross, and we will extinguish the candles, one-by-one, dramatizing the suffering and death of Jesus. The diminishing light symbolizes the fading devotion of the disciples and the sin of the world.*

### **GATHERING**

PRELUDE      Beneath the Cross of Jesus  
(Highland Ringers)

WORDS OF INVITATION

CENTERING WORDS

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace and peace of the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: O crucified Jesus, Son of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, eternal Word of God,

**All: we worship you.**

One: O crucified Jesus, holy temple of God, dwelling place of the Most High,

**All: we adore you.**

One: O crucified Jesus, who humbled himself, and became obedient to death - even death on a cross,

**All: we thank you.**