



The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services and to serve as an officer of the church.

We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

PRELUDE

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Beneath the Cross of Jesus*
Sally Harmon, organ

arr. Cherwien

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Bigwood

Jesus began to say, "This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

We have seen the signs, nation rises against nation and there is hate amongst the people.

"But the one who endures to the end will be saved." This is the good news –

the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations.

We will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory.

And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call.

And they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Let us worship the One who is coming in glory.

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.

...in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.

We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;

I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

The service of Tenebrae, a word meaning "shadows" originated during the early years of the church. The service depicts the events that led to the crucifixion. The extinguishing of the candles, resulting in an encroaching darkness, symbolizes the flight of the disciples and the approaching hour of crucifixion. The moment of total darkness recalls the hours Christ was in the tomb.

I. THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:6-13

Benji Trumbo

MEDITATION

The Anointing at Bethany
by Malcolm Guite

HYMN 201

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar (vs 1 & 4)

A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.

The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, from women, men, and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

II. THE PASSOVER MEAL

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:17-30

Ally Trumbo

ANTHEM

The One
Sanctuary Choir; Ryan Smit, director

Courtney

COMMUNION & OFFERING

Use the QR code to access the secure giving portal on our website.

When you are invited to do so, please come forward by the center aisle. You will be served the bread and cup. Leave your offering in the plates after you've taken communion.

*Tonight's offering is for the Board of Deacons' Emergency Relief Fund.
This fund provides assistance for those who face special and unexpected needs.*



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Ruler of the Universe, we thank you for your mighty acts of deliverance, when you enable us to cross over from despair to hope, from brokenness to wholeness, from death to life. We thank you for the deep love of Jesus, which moved him to risk himself for the redemption of humanity; and for the grace we experience in receiving these symbols of the life he gave. Through lives given over in commitment to you, make us worthy of this great love. Amen.

III. THE GARDEN

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:30, 37-46

Robby Bigwood

HYMN 220

*Go To Dark Gethsemane (vs. 1, twice)
congregation may remain seated*

Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see;
watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away;
learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

MEDITATION

Olive Grove

Rev. Mary Jo E Holtey

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

IV. THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:47-57

Katie Bigwood

MEDITATION

Forgiveness

HYMN 207

Sharing Paschal Bread and Wine (vs. 1-5)

Sharing Paschal bread and wine as the daylight ebbs away,
friends at table join to dine. One of them will soon betray.
Shadows lengthen into night.

In a grove of olive trees underneath a darkening sky,
Jesus warns as he foresees: Peter also will deny.
Shadows lengthen into night.

In the garden, still and deep, those he asked to watch and pray,
heavy lidded, fall asleep, weary from the anxious day.
Shadows lengthen into night.

Deeper in the garden's chill, Jesus kneels to pray alone,
wrestling with God's holy will, crying out, "Let it be done!"
Shadows lengthen into night.

All too soon, the silence rends, with a crash of club and sword.
Judas, still received as "Friend," with a kiss betrays his Lord.
Shadows lengthen into night.

V. THE DENIAL

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 26:69-75

Jaden Argall

MEDITATION

Even Rocks Crumble

HYMN 218

Ah, Holy Jesus

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

VI. THE SENTENCE

SCRIPTURE	<i>Matthew 27:11-26</i>	Kayla Bones
MEDITATION	<i>Jesus is condemned to death</i> by Malcolm Guite	
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>O Darkest Woe</i>	Engel

VII. THE CRUCIFIXION

SCRIPTURE	<i>Matthew 27:38-44</i>	
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Above All</i>	arr. Sherman
	Westminster Ringers; Jill Post, director; Virginia Stern, keyboard	

*Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things.
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, you were here before the world began.
Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known.
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, there's no way to measure what you're worth.
Crucified, laid behind a stone; you lived to die, rejected and alone;
like a rose, trampled on the ground, you took the fall, and thought of me above all.
See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Crucified, laid behind the stone; you lived to die, rejected and alone;
like a rose, trampled on the ground, you took the fall, and thought of me above all.
like a rose, trampled on the ground, you took the fall, and thought of me above all.*

VIII. DEATH ON THE CROSS

SCRIPTURE	<i>Matthew 27:45-54</i>	
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>Were You There</i>	Ryan Smit, soloist

Thank you for coming. Please depart in silence.