



Revealed Through Nonviolence by Lauren Wright Pittman

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

APRIL 3, 2026

614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC 27511

(919) 467-8700

www.carypresbyterian.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP
A Service of Gathering Darkness
Please enter the Sanctuary in silence

Gathering

(Please stand as you are able.)*

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, you gave your Son to suffer the shame of the cross. Save us from hardness of heart, that, seeing him who died for us, we may repent, confess our sin, and receive your overflowing love, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Call to Worship** *Isaiah 53:4*

Leader: Surely he has borne our griefs

People: and carried our sorrows;

Leader: yet we esteemed him stricken,

People: smitten by God, and afflicted.

***Hymn**

Go to Dark Gethsemane (vv. 1-3)

No. 220

The Solemn Intercession

Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that with all who have departed this life and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

Eternal God of unchanging power and light, look with mercy on your whole church. Bring to completion your saving work, so that the whole world may see the fallen lifted up, the old made new, and all things brought to perfection by him through whom all things were made, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Tenebrae

Leader: Behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

People: Come, let us worship.

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The Passion

Reading: John 13:31-38 Denial Foretold

Solemn Reproach

O my people, O my church. What have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me! I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna: I brought you through tribulation and penitence, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Hymn *My Song Is Love Unknown*

No. 209

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Reading: John 18: 1-13 The Arrest

Solemn Reproach

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Hymn *This Is the Night*

No. 206

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Reading: John 18: 14-27 Questioning Before High Priest Annas

Solemn Reproach

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Hymn *Ah, Holy Jesus (vv. 1-2, 4-5)* No. 218

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Reading: John 18: 28-40 The Trial Before Pilate

Solemn Reproach

I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Hymn *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Passion Chorale
Quartet: Elizabeth & Jim White, Sandy Steadman, Scott Kelly

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Reading: John 19: 1-16a The Trial Before Pilate (continued)

Solemn Reproach

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior

Reflection Hymn *Lord, Why Have You Forsaken Me* No. 210

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Reading: John 19: 16b-37 The Crucifixion

Solemn Reproach

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters; I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Hymn *Were You There* (vv. 1-3, 5)

No. 228

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Reading: NRSV John 19: 38-42 The Burial

Solemn Reproach

I grafted you into the vine of my chosen people, and you responded to them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Reflection Anthem *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
Chancel Choir

arr. Pote

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Stripping of the Sanctuary

As we prepare to depart, the sanctuary is stripped of paraments and other liturgical arts to imitate the barren reality of the tomb in which Christ will lie until the day of resurrection. Use this time to reflect upon your own discipleship asking questions like, "When have I failed to love my Lord completely?"

Or, "How might I live in order to bring joy instead of pain to the heart of God?" Once the sanctuary is stripped, and the music has concluded . . .

All depart in silence.

Today's Worship Service Participants

Ministers: Rev. Alan Bancroft

Music Director: Ed Yasick

Choir: Chancel Choir

Ushers: Medora Hix, Kirsten Nielsen

Tech: John Campbell



The Procession of Judas by James Tissot

Good Friday
the good news is... revealed through nonviolence



Revealed through Nonviolence

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 22:47-53; Luke 23:33-38, 44-46
11"x14" Gouache & colored pencils on paper

Creating this image²² was overwhelming. I sought to capture Jesus' nonviolent response to relentless violence. As I considered each moment of his journey to the cross, I felt despondent. I know how hard it is to resist the reactive urge that courses through me even experiencing mild forms of violence. How much more difficult then for Jesus to endure such dehumanizing acts? Was he stripped so completely of his humanity that only divinity remained—and even that restrained from retribution?

Begin at the center with Judas's kiss—intimate, subversively violent. Follow the sword behind Judas²³ to the top left: a disciple fiercely defends Jesus, while to his right, the high priest's slave

screams after his ear is cut. Jesus reproves the violence and heals the servant.

Moving clockwise, a man—representing the chief priests and temple police—points an accusatory finger, wielding the authority to kill an innocent man. To his right, a man crafts Jesus' cross, quietly sustaining the violence of the status quo. Below him, an opportunist casts lots for Jesus' clothes, while a leader laughs at the impossibility that the Messiah will save himself. Finally, in the bottom left, a man offers Jesus sour wine in a moment of deep thirst—physical and spiritual.

At the heart of it all is Jesus, tearful, looking at us. His halo shines, revealing the many faces of violence around him. From the foundation of his steady posture grows an olive tree. Its branches extend beyond his clothing, reaching out to embrace those around him.

Through his nonviolent stance, the truth of a violent world is revealed. And in that truth, the good news of peace finds soil in which to take root, to grow, and to flourish. —Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Look

Allow your eyes to follow the olive tree as it weaves through the composition and touches each figure. What meaning do you glean from the olive tree?

22 This composition is inspired by *Vivir en Comunidad* ("Living in Communion") by Maximino Cerezo Barredo (1932-), a mural in La Paz, Granada, Spain. View the art here: [instagram.com/p/DLFqUWg0x-i/](https://www.instagram.com/p/DLFqUWg0x-i/)

23 The sword references Judas's backstabbing act of betrayal.



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