



**ORDER OF WORSHIP
APRIL 18, 2025
GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE FROM**

**VOICES FOR GOOD FRIDAY
“THERE IS BALM”
by Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr**

PRELUDE “What Wondrous Love” arr. Mark Albrecht
Jerry Bursch, Piano – Steve Reints, Trumpet

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CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Psalm 69)

ALL: Save me, O God. Do not let those who hope in you be put to shame because of me. Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant mercy, turn to me. Do not hide your face from your servant, for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.

OPENING HYMN: In the Cross of Christ I Glory Hymnal # 295
CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634
CCLI Song # 36499

1. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

2. When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me.
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

3. When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER: O Divine Redeemer

Gracious and Everliving God, on this Friday evening, we gather humbly to remember the final day of Jesus' earthly journey and his willing sacrifice. Last Sunday, we marched triumphantly with his disciples into the city of Jerusalem waving palm branches. All through this Lenten season, we have pondered Jesus' compassion, his patience, and his suffering. As his followers living in a world overrun by turmoil and ravaged by war, we pray for the courage to walk alongside the oppressed, broken, lost and abandoned who are praying for relief. Guide us in the way that leads to reconciliation and the life everlasting. All this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

PASTORAL PRAYER: O Divine Redeemer, Creator of the Universe, Author of our story, we are blessed to be here, breathing in your spirit presence. Remind us, dearest LORD, that with every breath we take, you offer us love despite our flaws, hope amid trials, mercy even when our compassion for others fails, and a new

beginning each morning. Give us the courage to live out our discipleship commitment, working to bring the peace of Christ into every encounter, every situation, every moment of this life. Teach us the ways of reconciliation, how to mend our broken relationships as we reach out beyond our own needs and opinions to comfort the brokenhearted. Inspire us to be the hands and feet of Jesus, greeting and embracing the stranger in our midst. Remind us daily that we are working for your kingdom upon the earth, not ours. All this we pray in the name of The Christ who taught us to pray, saying: **Our Abba Father, which 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for THINE is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN OF CONTRITION: “Ah Holy Jesus”

Hymnal #289

CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634
CCLI Song # 749188

1. 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!

2. 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.

3. Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered.
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23:13-38 Rev. Matt McPhee

THE SAMARITAN'S STORY Rev. Amanda Burr

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23:39-43 Rev. Matt McPhee

OFFERING STATEMENT: We live out our discipleship vows by offering our prayers, our presence, our service, our gifts, and our witness. In so doing we glorify God and the wonder of God's love.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Fall Slow Tears" The Chancel Choir

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DOXOLOGY: *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634
CCLI Song # 56204

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION: Merciful God, on this night of nights, we ask your blessing upon these gifts. May they bring relief to those in need and comfort to the brokenhearted. Multiply their power to move closer to the fruition of your kingdom here on earth. In the name of The Christ, we pray. Amen.

THE WOMAN WITH THE ALABASTER FLASK Terri-Rae Elmer

HYMN: "O Love Divine What Hast Thou Done?" UM Hymnal # 287

Words: Charles Wesley. Public Domain – Music: Isaac B. Woodbury. Public Domain

1. O Love divine, what has thou done!
The immortal God hath died for me!

The Father's coeternal Son
bore all my sins upon the tree.
Th' immortal God for me hath died:
My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

2. Is crucified for me and you,
to bring us rebels back to God.
Believe, believe the record true,
ye all are bought with Jesus' blood.
Pardon for all flows from his side:
My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 23:50-56

Rev. Matt McPhee

JOANNA, THE WIFE OF CHUZA

Rev. Amanda Burr

The Christ Candle is removed from the sanctuary during the singing of the following hymn.

CLOSING HYMN: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" UM Hymnal # 286

CCLI / Streaming: 1256912 / 20574634

CCLI Song # 4224059

1. O sacred Head, now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown:
how pale thou art with anguish,mat
with sore abuse and scorn!
How does that visage languish
which once was bright as morn!

2. What thou, my Lord, has 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,
vouchsafe to me thy grace.

3. 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 be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love for thee.

THE STREPITUS SOUNDS

The Christ Candle is returned to the altar.

Benediction: Go in peace to love and serve the LORD with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Amen.

Postlude: “Were You There?”
Vocals: Rev. Cal White; Rev. Amanda Burr and Trumpet: Steve Reints

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When you are ready to leave, please exit the sanctuary in silence.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 23: 13-38

Jesus Sentenced to Death

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'

Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.' But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in

prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

The Crucifixion of Jesus

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, "Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed." Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us." For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

LUKE 23: 39-43

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

LUKE 23: 44-49

The Death of Jesus

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

LUKE 23:50-56

The Burial of Jesus

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.