



## Good Friday Service

April 3, 2015

12:00 P.M.

### *Gathering the Community*

PRELUDE

Ray Staroscik  
Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Isaiah 53:1-3)

Bob Ponder

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

We gather to worship God.

**We gather to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us;**

**We gather to give thanks for God's love and his mercy**

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of  
the LORD been revealed?

**He grew up before God like a tender shoot,  
and like a root out of dry ground.**

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing  
in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised  
and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with  
suffering.

**Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised,  
and we esteemed him not.**

HYMN # 223 (GTG)

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loretta Stanton

Let us pray.

**Merciful God - as we remember how your son Jesus bore our  
sins in his body on the cross, how seven times he spoke, seven  
words of love, we ask you to bless our hearing.**

Our God, as we recall how His silence cried  
for mercy on the souls of all, we ask you to help us to  
understand the mystery of your love, and make us into a people  
who are ever more worthy of it.

**Amen.**

# THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

*THE FIRST WORD*

Jack Callas

Luke 23:33-34

When they came to the place called "The Skull", they nailed Jesus to the cross there, and the two criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said "Forgive them, Father! They do not know what they are doing."

SILENCE

We do not know how we have offended you.

We find it hard to forgive.

Help us see what we are doing to you and your children of the world.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

*THE SECOND WORD*

Kate Callas

Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals hanging there threw insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" The other one, however, rebuked him, saying: "Don't you fear God? Here we are all under the same sentence. Ours, however, is only right, for we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" Jesus said to him, "I tell you this: Today you will be in Paradise with me."

SILENCE

We forget you, Lord Jesus.

We forget who you are.

But you remember us.

You invite us into Paradise.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

HYMN # 227 (GTG)

*"Jesus Remember Me"* (Taize)

*THE THIRD WORD*

Lorraine Manos

John 19:25-27

Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

SILENCE

You honor relationships, Jesus.  
You are with us in the midst of family life  
You are with us in the midst of friendship and service with others.  
Help us to honor our relationships with others.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

*THE FOURTH WORD*

Judith Sheldon

Mark 15:33-34

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Elo-i, elo-i, lama sabach-thani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

SILENCE

There are times, O Lord, when we feel abandoned  
Loneliness seized us and we cry out.  
Help us remember your abiding presence even when we cannot see you.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

HYMN # 215 (GTG)

*"What Wondrous Love Is This?"*

*THE FIFTH WORD*

Bob Ponder

John 19:28

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the scripture), "I thirst."

SILENCE

We live lives of parched souls.  
We fail to seek the Living Water that you alone can give.  
Help us to seek you and to pass the cup to others who thirst.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

*THE SIXTH WORD*

Kate Callas

John 19:29-30

A bowl was there, full of cheap wine mixed with vinegar, so a sponge was soaked in it, put on stalk of hyssop and lifted up to his lips. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished";

SILENCE

Lord Jesus, you have brought salvation to completion.  
But we do not trust it.  
We hurriedly try to control our lives and those of others  
Failing to recognize you are the source of all power and strength.

**Holy God, holy and merciful,  
holy and just, have mercy upon us.**

SILENCE

HYMN # 220, v.s 1-3 (GTG)                    *"Go to Dark Gethsemane"*

*THE SEVENTH WORD*

Loretta Stanton

Luke 23:46

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

SILENT MEDITATION

RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 53-4-6,9

Lorraine Manos

Surely he has borne our grief's and carried our sorrows,  
yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.  
**But he was wounded for our transgressions and he was bruised  
for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that made  
us whole.**

All we like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to  
our own way; and the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity  
of us all.

**He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich  
in his death, although he had done no violence nor was any  
deceit in his mouth.**

HYMN # 228 (GTG)                    *"Were You There"*

BENEDICTION

Jack Callas

Depart now in peace - and may the Spirit of Christ, go with you,  
may his faith and trust abide within you, and may the knowledge  
of his love support you both now and forevermore.

POSTLUDE

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*\*Please stand, if able*