

Good Friday Service

April 2, 2021

GATHERING: *Quiet conversation among congregants is encouraged.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is light. In God, There is no darkness at all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

This is the judgment: the light has come into the world.

And, we loved darkness rather than light.

***OPENING HYMN:** "Were You There"

UMH #288

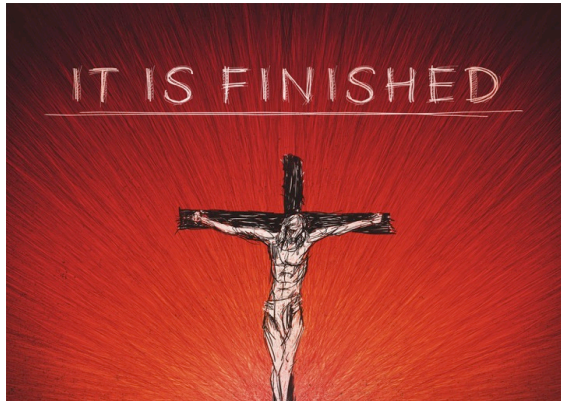
PRAYER OF APPROACH:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Most gracious Father, look with mercy upon your children gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed, given into sinful hands, and suffered death upon the cross. Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals as we enter the way of his passion; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.



The Passion of Jesus Christ:

The readings we will hear come from John 18:1-19:42. After each reading a candle will be extinguished in keeping with the tradition of Tenebrae, or "Darkness," which began in the 12th century as an extended meditation on The Passion of Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"
(soloist: Kaleb Shelley)

SONG OF THE SUFFERING SERVANT Isaiah 53:4 - 9

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice, he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

(see next page)

A MOMENT OF PRAYERFUL MEDITATION

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: "O Love Divine, What
Hast Thou Done"

*During this time of prayerful meditation, you are
welcome to approach the altar for prayer.*

DISMISSAL

As we depart into the night, may the strength of God's Spirit
carry you into the darkness for the light of the world has
been laid to rest.

*The congregation is encouraged to go forth in prayerful silence
until we come together again on Easter Sunday.*

Pastor.....Rev. E. Rossiter Chellis
Christian Education Kassijo Lloyd
Music Ministry Mary Ruth Ragland
Organist Paul I. Skoko
Pianist.....Melodye Sparks
Worship.....Melanie Daniels

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