



First United Methodist Church of Torrance Online Church in Worship

March 29, 2024

Good Friday Worship

PRELUDE - James

WELCOME - Pastor Jacob Lee

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER - Nathan

O Holy God, the hosannas have died away, the palm branches have turned brittle. Now, today, there is only this — each of us, all of us, sitting in the darkness, the hymns of lament in the air, the mumblings of our own feeble confession, on this Friday which we tremble to call Good.

What is good about Good Friday?

What is good about the innocent one nailed to a cross?

What is good about the darkness of war that persists today?

What is good about our devastation of the planet?

...about people living in poverty?

...about the fog of addiction, depression, disease, and despair?

What is good about the crushing weight of hunger, racism, scapegoating, apathy?

No, there is nothing good and desirable in these things. Yet you, O God, are Good.

When suffering reigns, yours is the first heart to break. When despair lurks about, we remember that you were there first, peering into the abyss and crying out, incredibly: “Father, forgive them.” When we feel forsaken, we remember that in your last moments, you cared for your mother and your beloved disciple, binding them to one another as a new family.

When we feel overcome by guilt, we remember that you spoke grace to a thief: “Today you will be with me in paradise.” Your love for us is just that boundless, and ever-present, and Good. Thank you. What else can we say here, in the dimness, in the darkness, but thank you. Amen.

(Written by Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana, Idylwood Presbyterian Church, VA)

OPENING HYMN #504 *The Old Rugged Cross* (v. 1, 3)

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

3. In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
to pardon and sanctify me.

*Refrain***The Old Rugged Cross**

George Bennard
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REFLECTION – Rene

Where Is Love on Good Friday

SPECIAL MUSIC – Rejoice Singers**Do You Know My Jesus**

Rev. V. B. (Vep) Ellis | William F. (Bill) Lakey
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THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS**THE FIRST WORD** Luke 23:34 – Willow

“Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.” – Lori
Extinguishing the candle

THE SECOND WORD Luke 23:42-43 – Phillip

“Truly, I tell you today you will be with me in Paradise.” – Kirby
Extinguishing the candle

SPECIAL MUSIC – Rachelle and Leah**Grace Flows Down**

David E. Bell | Louie Giglio | Rod Padgett
© 2000 sixsteps Music; worshiptogether.com songs
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THE THIRD WORD John 19:26-27 - Anela

“Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple,

“Here is your mother.” - Jennifer

Extinguishing the candle

THE FOURTH WORD Mark 15:34 - Jordan Donahue

“Eloi, Eloi lema, sabachtani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” - Jesse

Extinguishing the candle

OFFERING

For those who are called and able, gifts and tithes can still be made through [online giving](#), by mailing them in, and by dropping them off to the church office through the secure mail slot to the left of the double door entry to the church hallway.

OFFERTORY MUSIC - Josh**DOXOLOGY**

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

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (Old 100th)

Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for the privilege of giving in your exalted name. We value our ability to give in a way that honors your spirit. As we present our offerings, we remain secure in our knowledge that you will sustain us by your redeeming grace and our infinite love. May your righteous spirit always dwell in our hearts. Amen.

(Romans 8:6-11 Copyright 2023, David S. Bell)

THE FIFTH WORD John 19:28 - Mahala

“I am thirsty.” - Aida

Extinguishing the candle

THE SIXTH WORD John 19:30 - Elijah

“It is finished.” - Scott

Extinguishing the candle

SPECIAL MUSIC - Richard

Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley

Traditional | Arr. Samuel Stokes

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THE SEVENTH WORD Luke 23:46 - Jubilee

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” - Pastor Joy Oh

Extinguishing the candle

CLOSING MESSAGE - Rev. Jacob S. Lee

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Sofia

How Great Thou Art

Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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