

April 6, 2012

Good Friday

Welcome + Call to Worship

Holy and loving God,
**as we prepare to set aside our busyness
and to focus intently on Jesus' suffering and death,
we ask for eyes to see all of the amazing things that Jesus' death
means for understanding you, your love, and our salvation.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

(black binder #54)

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.
Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.
I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

Words & Music: Stuart Townend | ©1995 Thankyou Music | CCLI Song #1558110

A Dramatic Reading of Christ's Passion: John 18-19

Please participate in this dramatic reading
by reading the lines of the
CROWD.

All lines will be projected on the screen.

(red hymnal #253)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul.
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?
When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Folk Text: J. Mercer's "Cluster of Spiritual Songs" 1836 | American Folk Hymn: "Christopher" in W. Hauser's "Hesperian Harp" 1848; Harm. by Alice Parker b. 1925

Meditation

- Matt Kitchener

Tenebrae, meaning "deepening shadows"

*At this time we will extinguish all candles
and strip the sanctuary of all decorations.*

Intercession

Giver of life, we wait with you to offer the hope
that comes from the cross to earth's darkest places.
Where pain is deep and affection is denied:
let love break through.
Where justice is destroyed,
let sensitivity to right spring up.
Where hope is crucified,
let faith persist.
Where peace has no chance,
let passion live on.
Where truth is trampled underfoot,
let the struggle continue.
Where fear paralyzes,
let forgiveness break through.
Eternal God, reach into the silent darkness of our souls
with the radiance of the cross.
O you who are the bearer of all pain,
have mercy on us.
Giver of life,
have mercy on us.
Merciful God,
have mercy on us. Amen.

Benediction

Jesus Christ is our peace;
in his flesh he has broken down the dividing wall of hostility
between us.
He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances,
that he might create in himself one new humanity
thus making peace, and reconciling us to God
through his death on the cross.
So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off
and peace to those who were near;
for through him we all have access in one Spirit to the Father.
Christ is the sure source of our peace.
May Christ's peace be always with you.
And also with you.

Our readers this evening were:
Lorraine Geddes, *Narrator*
Chin Sun, *Jesus*
Axel Schoeber, *Pontius Pilate*
Erika Robertson, *Simon Peter + Joseph of Arimathea*
Tora Klassen, *Judas + Nicodemus*