

A Service for Good Friday

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Let us remember

how the sky went dark.

Let us remember

how his mother was there.

Let us remember

how people mocked him.

Let us remember

how his friends fled.

Let us remember,

how in the midst of all that, Jesus still chose love.

Let us worship holy God.

*Hymn UMH #297 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of unfathomable mercy, if we were there, we’d like to think that we would have defended you. We’d like to think that we would have stopped the guards and silenced the mockery, protected your body and defended your name. However, if we’re honest with ourselves, we probably would have been at the edge of the crowd—silent and afraid. How often are we silent and afraid? How often do we wait for the stones to cry out for us? Forgive us. Please forgive us. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

...if this is true from the cross, it is certainly true here. We are surrounded by grace.

We are held in love.

We are forgiven—over and over again.

The trust never changes. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading John 19:14-19

Special Music “Father, Forgive Them”

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

THE FIRST WORD

“Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Luke 23:34

THE SECOND WORD

“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Luke 23:43

THE THIRD WORD

“Woman here is your son. Here is your mother.”

John 19:26-27

THE FOURTH WORD

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Matthew 27:46 (Mark 15:34)

THE FIFTH WORD

“I am thirsty.”

John 19:28

THE SIXTH WORD

“It is finished.”

John 19:30

THE SEVENTH WORD

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Luke 23:46

*Hymn UMH #288 “Were You There?”

Stripping of the Altar

As the service concludes there will be no formal dismissal or postlude.

Pastor Laura will exit the sanctuary; you are invited to remain in prayer and depart in silence when you are ready.



Why We Remember Good Friday

Today, we gather in solemn remembrance of the day Jesus Christ willingly gave His life on the cross. Good Friday marks the crucifixion—the moment when love bore the weight of the world’s sin. Though the events we recall are filled with sorrow, we call this day “Good” because, through Christ’s sacrifice, the promise of redemption was made possible.

For centuries, Christians have set this day apart with prayer, reflection, scripture, and silence. We pause not only to mourn the suffering of our Savior but to stand in awe of His grace. As we journey through this holy day, we do so with hearts open to the mystery of God’s love—a love so deep, it gave everything for us.

Easter Sunday Services

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| Sunrise Service, Bicentennial Park | 6:15 am |
| Daymark Worship | 8:25 am |
| Beacon Worship | 10:30 am |



“Worship God, Love One Another, Serve the World”



Good Friday
April 18, 2025, 7:00 pm

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