



## **ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH**

150 Colborne St. S., Simcoe, ON N3Y 4H6

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### **STAFF:**

Minister: Rev. Barrie Bain, BA, M.Div.

VAM: Rev. Michael Beacom, BA, BD

Music Director: Diane Stewart (226) 567-5875

Office Administrator/Treasurer: Ann McNall 519-428-2611

Janitor: John McNall (519) 428-2611

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday to Thursday (9 to noon)

St. James United Church, Simcoe Ontario

GOOD FRIDAY - - April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026

*"Good Friday Service of Remembrance"*

"Spiritual Growth, Compassionate Living"

**GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER ... IN SADNESS**

Prelude Music:

**GOOD MORNING!** Words of Welcome, Greetings and Direction !

Persons wishing to remain seated for this service are welcome to do so.

Call to Worship: - (Responsive)

**LEADER:** Good Friday is a difficult part of our faith journey.  
It is a day of shadows and death.

**PEOPLE:** **A day when it seems like the sun will never shine  
bright or warm enough again.**

**LEADER:** This is a day of pain and sorrow.

**PEOPLE:** **A day when hope dies; when the world seems  
withered and barren.**

**LEADER:** This is a difficult story to tell.

**PEOPLE:** **But together, we will tell it. We will hear it,  
and feel it and share it. For this is our story, our hope,  
and our salvation!**

Hymn of Praise: **VU# 142 "Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"**

Prayer of Approach (Leader)

## **DESIRING CHRISTIAN GROWTH ... WE LISTEN**

Scripture Lesson: John 18: 1-11

Reader:

Choir Anthem: “**Lamb of God**” - Arr. By L Larson

Scripture Lesson: John 18:28-38

**Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**How frayed our lives have become, O God, a collection of loose ends, of tarnished glories and hazy dreams. Stretch our boundaries, stir our hearts, and inflame our souls to see You in every fragment of life. We want to feel You, God in every moment of time. We seek to listen with undivided attention, to what You would say to us. Let us keep our eyes and hearts focused on Your saving Cross. We offer now this prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray together saying . . . .**

**“Our Father who art in heaven . . . .”**

**Words of Assurance (unison)**

**Let us hear this good news of Good Friday. No matter how desperate our circumstances, no matter how troubled our hearts, no matter how alone and isolated we feel, God is here, loving us, surrounding us, upholding us, just as God carried Jesus through pain, suffering and death to Easter morning. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Hymn **VU# 144 “Were You There”**

### **SYMBOLIC WORDS AND ACTIONS OF GOOD FRIDAY**

Betrayal: Luke 22:14-22 – The banner is taken down

Temptation: Luke 22:39-46 Candelabra Candles extinguished

Desertion: John 18:1-11 Palm Branches removed

Denial: John 18: 25-27 Black cloth placed on table

Rejection: John 18:28-40, 19:1-10 Remove Clergy Stole

Cross: John 19:13-18 Clergy Cross placed at foot of Wooden Cross  
Mocking: Luke 23:35-38 Candles extinguished and removed.

\*\*Remaining Candles extinguished and removed from Table

Hymn **VU# 135 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

**IN DEEPEST REVERENCE - WE RESPOND**

Offertory Response: **VU #542 “We Give You But Your Own”**

Offertory Prayer

**Choir Anthem: “When You Prayed Beneath the Trees”**

Arr by L Larson

**WORDS AND ACTIONS CONTINUE**

Death: Luke 23:44-49

Piano is closed

Tomb: Luke 23:50-54

Table cross is covered

Prologue: Isaiah 53:3-6

Bible is closed . . .

Hymn **VU# 135 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

Benediction & Commissioning

Closing: **VU# 586 “We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection”**

(Verse 1 only)

Postlude Music:

**Depart in Silence - - - prepare to Return on Easter morning to  
celebrate Jesus rising from death, that we might know the Gift of  
Eternal Life!**