

# WORSHIP

MARCH 29, 2024 | 6:00 P.M.



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH of  
RICHARDSON

## GOOD FRIDAY: A SERVICE OF SHADOWS AND SONG

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*Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.*

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### OPENING VOLUNTARY

"In Remembrance"  
Terry Metzger, Piano

*by George Blake*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*adapted from Call to Worship, Year B*

We come to worship praying for the strength to be a witness for Christ.

**How do we go on singing?**

Even in your suffering, Lord Jesus,  
you forgive and you uplift the oppressed,  
eyes raised to heaven.

**Like the thief beside you, we long to be with you in glory.**

**For your assurance, we give you praise.**

### \*HYMN | "Go To Dark Gethsemane"

*Glory to God 220*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READING | John 18:1-40

### REFLECTION | selections from "Walk with Jesus" by Henri Nouwen, pgs. 9-11

### ANTHEM

"In Pilate's Court the Savior Stands"  
The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director  
Terry Metzger, Piano

*by Joseph M. Martin  
from "Song of the Shadows"*

### SCRIPTURE READING | John 19:1-30

### REFLECTION | selections from "Walk with Jesus" by Henri Nouwen, pgs. 75-77

### ANTHEM

"And It Was Night"  
The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director  
Terry Metzger, Piano

*by Joseph M. Martin  
from "Song of the Shadows"*

### SCRIPTURE READING | John 19:31-42

### REFLECTION | selections from "Walk with Jesus" by Henri Nouwen, pgs. 75-77

### SILENT REFLECTION

### \*HYMN | "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

*Glory to God 221*

## SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

*Please repeat the following after each set of reproaches:*

...but you have made a cross for your Savior

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal One,  
have mercy upon us.**

## ANTHEM

**“Even the Heavens are Weeping”**  
Makena Mailer, Percussion  
The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director  
Terry Metzger, Piano

*by Joseph M. Martin  
from “Song of the Shadows”*

*Please depart in silence.*

## **“Song of the Shadows”**

The earthly life of Christ began in the shadows. By the flickering of a candle flame in a rugged stable, the Light of the World delivered himself into our darkness.

In the shadows of ancient temples, we see him preaching "let there be light", and hope began to live where once only despair and night had ruled.

In the shadows of an upper room, we see him experience betrayal, but teaching the world about forgiveness and servanthood.

In the midnight of Gethsemane, we see Christ himself, struggling as we do with the lengthening shadows of life and still he teaches us about obedience and sacrifice.

Past Pilate's court we see Jesus walk through the valley of the shadow of death as he embraces the cross. Yet it is the silhouette of that same cross which, cast onto the sands of time, offers rest and shelter for those who are weary from the journey. In that sacred shadow, we discover our faith. It is there we develop our night vision, trusting God to be our guide.

Shall we walk together for a while in the shadow of the cross? It will not be an easy sojourn, but we will not walk alone. As we confront the "dark night of the soul", we can always find comfort in this: That wherever there are shadows, there is also light.

*-Joseph M. Martin*



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH of  
RICHARDSON  
*established 1870*

271 N. Walton St.  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972.235.2316  
[www.fpcrichardson.org](http://www.fpcrichardson.org)

Rev. Rosy Robson McCreary  
*Acting Head of Staff*  
[revro@fpcrichardson.org](mailto:revro@fpcrichardson.org)  
828.216.3257 cell

Rev. Alice Hernandez  
*Parish Associate*  
[alice@fpcrichardson.org](mailto:alice@fpcrichardson.org)  
469.497.5995 cell

