



**Good Friday Service**  
**April 18, 2025 @10:00 AM**

**Gathering music** VU # 149  
*“When I survey the Wondrous Cross”*

**Welcome**

## Gathering Prayer

This is not where we want to be,  
O Lord, yet it is where your Spirit  
has led us. We do not want to be  
beneath your Cross, yet we want  
to be with you.



In the mystery of this day, help us find meaning.  
Amidst the pain of death, help us to find comfort.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we gather in the  
darkness of this Friday we so boldly call Good. We  
ask this in the name of the one who hangs upon the  
Cross.

# Good Friday – The Christ Candle

On Christmas Eve, we lit a candle to celebrate the birth of Christ and the renewal it symbolized for the world. We rest in the glow of that candle now.  
*(a moment of silence)*





**Prelude**

*“The Old Rugged Cross”*

## **Call to Worship**

Good Friday is a challenging part of our faith.  
**Yet we gather to find meaning.**

We remember Jesus' death upon the Cross.  
**We also remember the power of pain and death  
that lives in our world.**

We gather with many who live under the power of  
addictions. Ones who are crucified with Christ.

**We gather with those whose livelihoods are  
threatened; those who live with uncertainty. Ones  
who are crucified with Christ.**

We gather with the aging who feel alone, neglected and forgotten. Ones who are crucified with Christ.

**We gather with our youth, who fear that the future has little to offer them. Ones who are crucified with Christ.**

We, too, are in pain from our own losses and disappointments. We too are crucified with Christ.

**We gather now beneath the Cross, which gave death. For we know that in its mystery, God is also present.**

1      They crucified my Lord,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they crucified my Lord,

**Refrain**

**and he never said a mumbalin' word.  
Not a word, not a word, not a word.**

2      They nailed him to the tree,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they nailed him to the tree, **R**

3      They pierced him in the side,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
they pierced him in the side,  
**R      and he never said a mumbalin' word.**  
**Not a word, not a word, not a word.**

4      The blood came tricklin' down,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
the blood came tricklin' down, **R**

5      He bowed his head and died,  
and he never said a mumbalin' word;  
he bowed his head and died, **R**

## Call to Healing

Here we are, two thousand years later, remembering the first Good Friday. We prepare to gather on a hill called Golgotha, “the place of the skull”, where Jesus is raised up on the Cross to die. As we remember Jesus’ death, we know that many of the “values” that caused Jesus to be crucified are still at work in our world today. We gather together in a time of confession, to pray for our world and those ways of power that rule our world today.



## Prayer for Healing

O God, we confess that our world has far to travel in order to walk in your Way. We live in a world that no longer crucifies with a Cross, but still lives under the power of death.           *(silence)*

We confess,  
**that your children are crucified when our world  
allows addictions to destroy lives**  
*(silence)*

We confess,  
**that your children are crucified when our world  
allows poverty and joblessness to cause despair.**  
*(silence)*

We confess,  
**that your children are crucified when our world  
forgets the aged and the infirm**                      *(silence)*

We confess,  
**that your children are crucified when many walk the  
streets without shelter or cannot afford food.**  
   *(silence)*

We confess,  
**that your children are crucified when countries  
battle over natural resources and over territory and  
ignore the environment.**                      *(silence)*

We confess,  
**that we too, are overwhelmed by these problems  
and feel crucified and without hope. *(silence)***

## **The Presence of Hope**

Brothers and sisters, hear the Good News:  
In times of suffering and pain, God is there.  
In times of loneliness and fear, God is there.  
In times of death, even death upon the Cross, God is  
there. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

# **The Scriptures**

## **First Reading**

*read by Colleen & Marian*  
*John 19:1-6, 16b-26*

**Colleen:** Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews !" And they slapped him in the face. Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews gathered there, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man !"

As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify ! Crucify !" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him."

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.

Carrying his own Cross, he went out to the Place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).

There they crucified him, and with him two others - one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the Cross. It read:  
**JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

# Musical Interlude

## Pie Jesu – Pious Jesus

*by The Priests on Youtube*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7twC9aSHQMU>

"Pie Jesu" Translation in English

Merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus

Father, who takes away the sins of the world

Grant them rest, grant them rest

Merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus, merciful Jesus

Father, who takes away the sins of the world

Grant them rest, grant them rest

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, Lamb of God, Lamb of God

Father, who takes away the sins of the world

Grant them rest, grant them rest

everlasting

everlasting

Rest

**Marian:** Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.



"Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.

Near the Cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.



One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah ? Save yourself and us !" But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence ? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."



It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the Temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**We give thanks for inspiration.**





Eloi, eloi.... lama  
sabachthani....

**Anthem**

*Depth of Mercy*



**Reflection**

*by Rev. Yun-Hee*

# Contemplation

## *“Crucified with Christ”*

*read by Lynda and Donna*

**Lynda:** Jesus said “Take up your cross and follow me.” Today, on Good Friday, we go with Jesus to crucifixion. We accompany Him to a hill called Golgotha. It is there, on that hill, that Jesus is raised up on the Cross and left to die.

**Donna:** We discover that Jesus is not alone. Two criminals are being crucified on either side of him, but they aren't the only ones. There are many people in our world who face crosses of suffering and pain. These are people, like Jesus, who are forced to endure torment, shame and anguish. They too are being crucified.

**Lynda:** We call to mind those who must daily carry a cross. We will pray and remember them through a symbol of the cross that they carry in their lives. We will affirm that they are not alone in their struggle. God is with them.

**Donna:** We remember Jesus, whose death brings us together today. In some ways His death was unremarkable. He was one of many tens of thousands crucified by the Romans long ago. His death was sheer agony, but no more so than many who have died in pain. For those who do not know Jesus, His death was like any other.

**Lynda:** But in other ways, Jesus' death is unique. Jesus chose to go to the Cross to show humankind God's love. He was put to death for the sake of the lowly, the humble and the sinner, who are crucified every day in our judgemental world. He died that we might be free.

**Donna:** The apostle Paul wrote "God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself". God knows our sufferings and trials because God was in Christ as He suffered on the Cross. God stands beside us in our pain and humiliation because God stood beside Jesus in His pain and humiliation. And God brings victory out of our failures because God brought Jesus victorious over death. Because Jesus suffered and died, we are not alone when we suffer and die. God is with us.

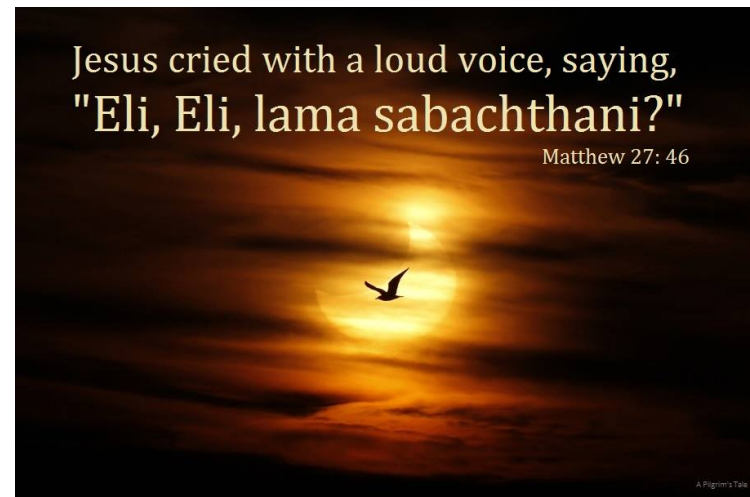
**Lynda:** God is with us as we remember today each person who carries a cross in their lives. God is with them because God was with Jesus when He carried His Cross. God was with Jesus when He was betrayed, arrested, tried and beaten. God was with Jesus when the Cross was thrust upon His shoulders and He was led to Golgotha. God was with Jesus when He was nailed to the Cross and crucified.



**Donna:** God, we pray for all those who carry a cross like Jesus. We know the journey is difficult and filled with pain, but through Jesus you have shown us that those who suffer are not alone. You are with them. We are grateful, God, for the sacrifice Jesus made. He chose the path of crucifixion in order to show us your love. May that love shine out through all of us. May we know that love in our hours of darkness and despair. May the love of Jesus grow and flourish until it embraces the whole world. **Amen.**

Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying,  
"Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?"

Matthew 27: 46



## Hymn VU # 144

## *“Were You There?”*

1      Were you there when they crucified my Lord ?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord ?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord ?

2  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree ?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree ?  
Oh ! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree ?

3      Were you there when the sun refused to  
shine?

        Were you there when the sun refused to  
shine?

        Oh ! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
                tremble, tremble.

        Were you there when the sun refused to  
shine?

4  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side ?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side ?  
Oh ! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,

5

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb ?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb ?

Oh ! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,  
tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb ?



# The Lord's Prayer

*(said)*

**Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
hallowéd be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be  
done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as  
we forgive those who trespass  
against us. And lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from  
evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

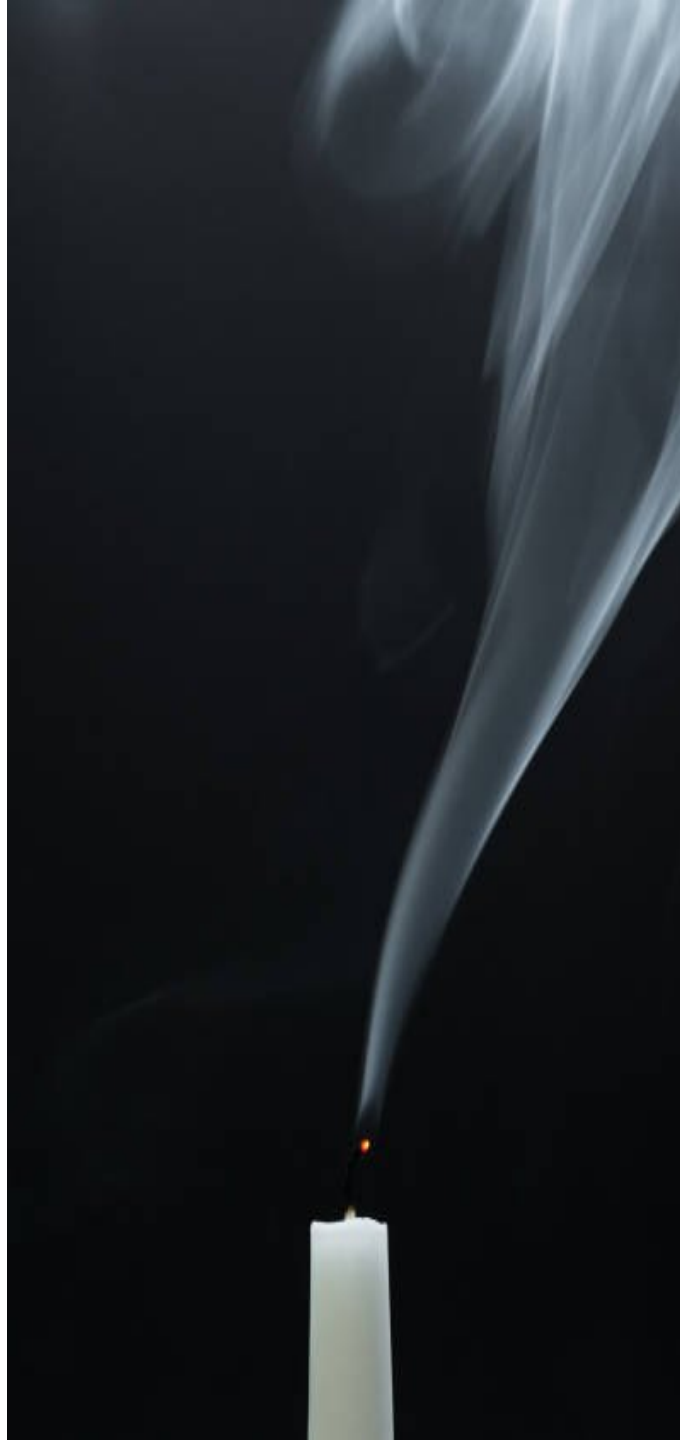


The Light shows us the Way, but we have come to the end of the road. It shines in and through us, but our fear diminishes its flame. It shines in this place, when we let it. Today, being the symbol of the Love and Grace the world sought to snuff out, we extinguish this candle.



**As we relive and reflect upon the events of Jesus' death this day, we extinguish the Christ candle, just for today, to remind us that even in shadowed times such as this, death will not have the last word, these hard times will not last forever, there will be a new dawn.**

***(As the Service ends the Christ Candle is extinguished)***





**May the Lord be  
with you !**

**Thank you for  
participating in the  
Service !**

**Special Thanks to  
our guest musician,  
Brad !**

**We will gather via  
Zoom and in Person  
on Easter Sunday !**

***(Now in Silence, we  
will leave  
this Good Friday  
Service.)***

(adapted from the United Church of Canada's  
Resources, 'Gathering')

## { A short devotional Time }

***“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have everlasting life.”*** ***John 3:16***

We remember the darkest hour of Jesus' Crucifixion.

“Dear God, we are blessed by your Holy Cross by which you have redeemed us. Our times and our days rest in your everlasting Love.

May you continue to help us to trust in such times and the world be filled with your Peace !” Amen.