



THE SOLEMN LITURGY OF GOOD FRIDAY

April 7, 2023

NOON SERVICE

Highlands United Methodist Church affirms that nothing can separate anyone from the love of God. We invite all to worship, wonder, and discover God's grace as we aspire to create a safe space for all to participate fully in the life of this community of faith. We are called to shine as a beacon of hope, grace, belonging, and respect for all people. Regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family, financial status, nationality, physical or mental ability, past or future, there is room for you at Highlands. All are welcome!

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

PREACHING – THORNTON MUNCHER

LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON, LESLIE WILLIAMS

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

VERGER – BRIAN BELLENGER

**Congregation please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.*

The congregation stands as the procession begins.

***SILENT PROCESSION**

***COLLECT FOR GOOD FRIDAY**

Blessed be our God. Forever and ever. Amen.

Let us pray: Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

*May these words reveal Christ to us. **Thanks be to God.***

PSALTER

Psalm 22:1–2, 7–8, 14–21

Plainsong (Tone IVe)

The Gentlemen of The Choir

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? And are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress? O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest. All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying, “He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him.” I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax. My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave. Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me; they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing. Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me. Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog. Save me from the lion’s mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls. I will declare your name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

EPISTLE LESSON

Hebrews 10:16–25

May these words reveal Christ to us. Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 298

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

Organ Improvisation: T. Tertius Noble

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER

*THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

THE HOMILY

Thornton Muncher

ANTHEM

That Virgin's Child

The Chamber Choir

*That Virgin's Child, most meek and mild, a lonely for my sake,
His Father's will for to fulfill, he came great pains to take.
And suffered death, as scripture saith, that we should saved be,
On Good Friday: wherefore I say, he mourned sore for me.*

*Now Christ Jesús of love most true, have mercy upon me.
I ask thee grace for my trespass that I have done to thee.
For thy sweet name, save me from shame and all adversity:
For Mary's sake, to thee me take, and mourn no more for me.*

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

Text, John Gwynneth

THE SOLEMN PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

*HYMN 286

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

PASSION CHORALE

Organ Improvisation: T. Tertius Noble

*SILENT PROCESSION

**Silence is observed throughout the Sanctuary from this time forward.
Each person is encouraged to pray and meditate as long as they desire.**



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS! ALL ARE WELCOME



A Reconciling Congregation – rmnetwork.org

Highlands United Methodist Church is a community of disciples of Christ; a beacon of hope, inviting all to become new persons in Christ to be sent into the world to share the Gospel and to serve our neighbors; and a sanctuary for those in need of God's love and grace.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 or exhibit symptoms of illness, please join us for online worship. *Worship services are livestreamed on Facebook, Youtube, and Vimeo. Visit www.highlandsumc.net for more information.*
 - Hand sanitizer is available throughout the Sanctuary and church building. Congregants are especially encouraged to sanitize hands prior to receiving Holy Communion.
- If you have questions or concerns regarding in-person worship safety protocols, please contact the church office at 205-933-8751.*

OFFERING

Cash or Check Giving:

- *Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks. Checks may be made payable to HUMC.*

Electronic Giving:

- *Text GIVE to 205-900-3040. A link will be provided for a simple, quick way to give with one click.*
- *Visit www.highlandsumc.net/giving to give using a debit/credit card or bank account.*

Sustainable Giving:

- *To set up monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at finance@highlandsumc.net.*

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