



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## SERVICE OF TENEBRAE – GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7, 2023

6:30 P.M.



*The service of Tenebrae, which is Latin for “shadows” or “darkness,” provides an extended meditation on the cross of Christ. This is a solemn opportunity to reflect on the passion and suffering of Jesus, who was killed at human hands. Through the reading of scripture and the successive extinguishing of light in the sanctuary, we are invited to enter into the dramatic narrative of Jesus’ betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion.*

*Cover image by Macha Chmakoff*  
*Père pardonne-leur: Ils ne savent pas ce qu'ils font (FATHER, FORGIVE THEM: THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO)*  
*From the series "Les sept dernières paroles du Christ (THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST)*

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

OFFICIANT – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON

LITURGIST – REGGIE HOLDER

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

VERGER – BRIAN BELLENGER

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

*Serving for Altar Guild:* Nancy Hill, Donna Sibley • *Serving as Ushers:* Joe Hughes, Henry Lagman  
*Serving as Acolytes:* Austin Meredith, Emmalynne Hudson • *Serving as Lay Readers:* Leigh Delashaw, Perry Still

## \*PRELUDE AND SOLEMN PROCESSION

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

*Chorale Prelude on Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein*  
*BWV 668a | When in the Hour of Utmost Need*

**The congregation stands as the procession begins and may be seated when The Choir is seated.**

## CHORAL INTROIT

### In the Departure of the Lord

*The Choir*

*In the departure of the Lord, of mortal body's vital breath, there lies a mystery worth record,  
Which he did show us here on earth: Who doth prepare to die each hour must follow Christ our Savior.*

*John Bull (1563-1628)*

*Text, John Bull*

## \*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.*

## \*HYMN 286

### O Sacred Head Now Wounded

PASSION CHORALE

*The Choir and Congregation*

1. O sacred head now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,  
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown:  
how pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!  
How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!
2. What thou, my Lord, has suffered was all for sinners' gain;  
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;  
look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.
3. What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,  
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?  
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love for thee.

*Music: Hans L. Hassler, 1564-1612; harm. by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750*  
*Text: Anonymous; trans. by Paul Gerhardt and James W. Alexander*

*He was pierced for our transgressions*

*See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him – so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals – so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*

PSALTER

Psalm 22:1-2, 7-8, 14-21

Plainsong Tone IVe

*The Gentlemen of The Choir*

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? And are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest.

<sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

<sup>8</sup>“He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”

<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.

<sup>15</sup>My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

<sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

<sup>18</sup>Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me.

<sup>19</sup>Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

<sup>20</sup>Save me from the lion’s mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

<sup>21</sup>I will declare your name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

BIDDING PRAYER

*Dear people of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life. Amen.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER 895

# THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

## FIRST LESSON

Matthew 26:36–46

*Jesus' disciples fall asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane*

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."<sup>37</sup> He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated.<sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."<sup>39</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."<sup>40</sup> Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?"<sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."<sup>42</sup> Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."<sup>43</sup> Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.<sup>44</sup> So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.<sup>45</sup> Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners."<sup>46</sup> Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

## FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

### RESPONSE – HYMN 289

Ah, Holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

All verses sung by The Choir and congregation.

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted!
2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

Music: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; trans. by Robert S. Bridges, 1844-1930

## SECOND LESSON

Matthew 26:47–56

*Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss*

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.<sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him."<sup>49</sup> At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.<sup>51</sup> Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.<sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword."<sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?<sup>54</sup> But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"<sup>55</sup> At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me."<sup>56</sup> But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

## SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

**Verse one sung by The Choir.**

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

**Verse two sung by all.**

2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this, that caused the lord of life  
 to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
 to lay aside his crown for my soul.

Music: USA folk hymn; Harmony by Paul J. Christiansen, 1955 (MH harmony by Carlton R. Young)  
 Text: Anonymous

## THIRD LESSON

Matthew 26:57–68

*Jesus before the Sanhedrin*

<sup>57</sup> Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. <sup>58</sup> But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. <sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, <sup>60</sup> but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward <sup>61</sup> and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’” <sup>62</sup> The high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?” <sup>63</sup> But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” <sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” <sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. <sup>66</sup> What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” <sup>67</sup> Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, “Prophesy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”

## THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

**Verse one sung by The Choir.**

1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died;  
 my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

**Verses two and three sung by all.**

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;  
 All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Music: Anonymous; arr. by Edward Miller  
 Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748



## Peter's denial

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."<sup>70</sup> But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about."<sup>71</sup> When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."<sup>72</sup> Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."<sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."<sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed.<sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

## FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

## RESPONSE

## That Virgin's Child

The 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

## FIFTH LESSON

## Matthew 27:15–26

## Jesus before Pilate

<sup>15</sup> Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted.<sup>16</sup> At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas.<sup>17</sup> So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"<sup>18</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.<sup>19</sup> While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."<sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.<sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."<sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!"<sup>23</sup> Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"<sup>24</sup> So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."<sup>25</sup> Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"<sup>26</sup> So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

## FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

**Verse one sung by The Choir.**

1. O Love divine, what has thou done! The immortal God hath died for me!  
 The Father's coeternal Son bore all my sins upon the tree.  
 Th' immortal God for me hath died: My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

**Verses two and three sung by all.**

2. Is crucified for me and you, to bring us rebels back to God.  
 Believe, believe the record true, ye all are bought with Jesus' blood.  
 Pardon for all flows from his side: My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

3. Behold him, all ye that pass by, the bleeding Prince of life and peace!  
 Come, sinners, see your Savior die, and say, "Was ever grief like his?"  
 Come, feel with me his blood applied: My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

Music: Isaac B. Woodbury, 1819-1858

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

## SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 27:27–44

*The soldiers mock Jesus*

<sup>27</sup> Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. <sup>28</sup> They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup> They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup> After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. <sup>32</sup> As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup> And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup> they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. <sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; <sup>36</sup> then they sat down there and kept watch over him. <sup>37</sup> Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." <sup>38</sup> Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>39</sup> Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads <sup>40</sup> and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." <sup>41</sup> In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, <sup>42</sup> "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup> He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" <sup>44</sup> The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

## SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED



RESPONSE

In Paradisum

from REQUIEM

The Choir

*In paradisum deducant angeli: in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,  
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.*

*Chorus angelorum te suscipiat, et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.*

TRANSLATION: God's holy angels lead you to paradise: may saints in their glory receive you at your journey's end,  
Guiding your footsteps into the Holy City Jerusalem.

Choirs of angels sing you to your rest: and with Lazarus raised to eternal life, may you forevermore rest in peace.

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Text, Antiphon from the Burial Service

SEVENTH LESSON

Matthew 27:45-50

The death of Jesus

<sup>45</sup> From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>46</sup> And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>47</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." <sup>48</sup> At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. <sup>49</sup> But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." <sup>50</sup> Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

THE PASCHAL CANDLE IS REMOVED

RESPONSE

Truly, This Was the Son of God

from THE SAINT MATTHEW PASSION

The Choir

*Truly, this was the Son of God.*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Text, Matthew 27:54b

**Please stand for the dismissal.**

\*DISMISSAL BLESSING

*May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on the cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever more. Amen.*

\*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 with the Reconciling Ministries Network – [rmnetwork.org](http://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.

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.

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### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The message of the Hebrew prophets, Jesus, Paul, and the early church was always a message of welcome and inclusion for all. The image of God's kingdom is of something small and insignificant growing into something larger and of great significance. The oppressed, the alien, and the outcast were all welcomed, included, and cared for. In this sense, our faith is built upon the idea of gracious hospitality. Followers of Jesus are not about walls of exclusion but bridges of grace and acceptance. Ours is a faith of invitation, for all to come to know Jesus as the living Christ who overcomes all brokenness, sin, and even death, offering a way to make all things new. This invitation extends to you. If you desire to explore what this means for you, please speak to a member of the clergy after the service or sometime this week. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.

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### 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](http://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.*

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### 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](http://www.highlandsumc.net/giving) to give using a debit/credit card or bank account.

*Sustainable Giving:*

- To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at [finance@highlandsumc.net](mailto:finance@highlandsumc.net).

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