



# HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE – GOOD FRIDAY

MARCH 29, 2024

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:* Todd Edmondson, Kirk Smith

*Serving as Lay Readers:* Phil Amthor, Anne Rand

## PRELUDE

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

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

## CHORAL INTROIT

### **Behold the Cross**

*The Choir*

*Behold the cross displayed, where-on the Savior of the world did hang. O come ye, let us worship and bow down*

*Richard Phillips (b. 1959)*

*Text, Traditional*

## \*SOLEMN 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.*

## \*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*

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**

ANTHEM

**Behold the Lamb of God**

*The Choir*

*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

*Surely, He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.*

*He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities.*

*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

*Healy Willan (1880-1968)*

*Text, John 1:29 and Isaiah 53:4,5*

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

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

*Matthew 26:36–46*

**FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED**

*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

*Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss*

Matthew 26:47–56

SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE

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*

THIRD LESSON

*Jesus before the Sanhedrin*

Matthew 26:57–68

THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE – HYMN 298

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

**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*

## 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 Jesú 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

## Jesus before Pilate

## Matthew 27:15–26

## FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

## RESPONSE

## Song for Athene

*The Choir*

*Alleluia. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest. Alleluia.  
Remember me, O Lord, when you come into your kingdom. Alleluia.  
Give rest, O Lord, to your servant who has fallen asleep. Alleluia.  
The choir of saints have found the well-spring of life and door of paradise. Alleluia.  
Life: a shadow and a dream. Alleluia.  
Weeping at the grave creates the song: Alleluia.  
Come, enjoy rewards and crowns I have prepared for you. Alleluia.*

*John Tavener (1944-2013)**Text, from Shakespeare's Hamlet and the Orthodox Funeral Service*

## SIXTH LESSON

## The soldiers mock Jesus

## Matthew 27:27–44

## 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

The death of Jesus

Matthew 27:45–50

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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### 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 card, 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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HAPPENING AT HIGHLANDS!

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