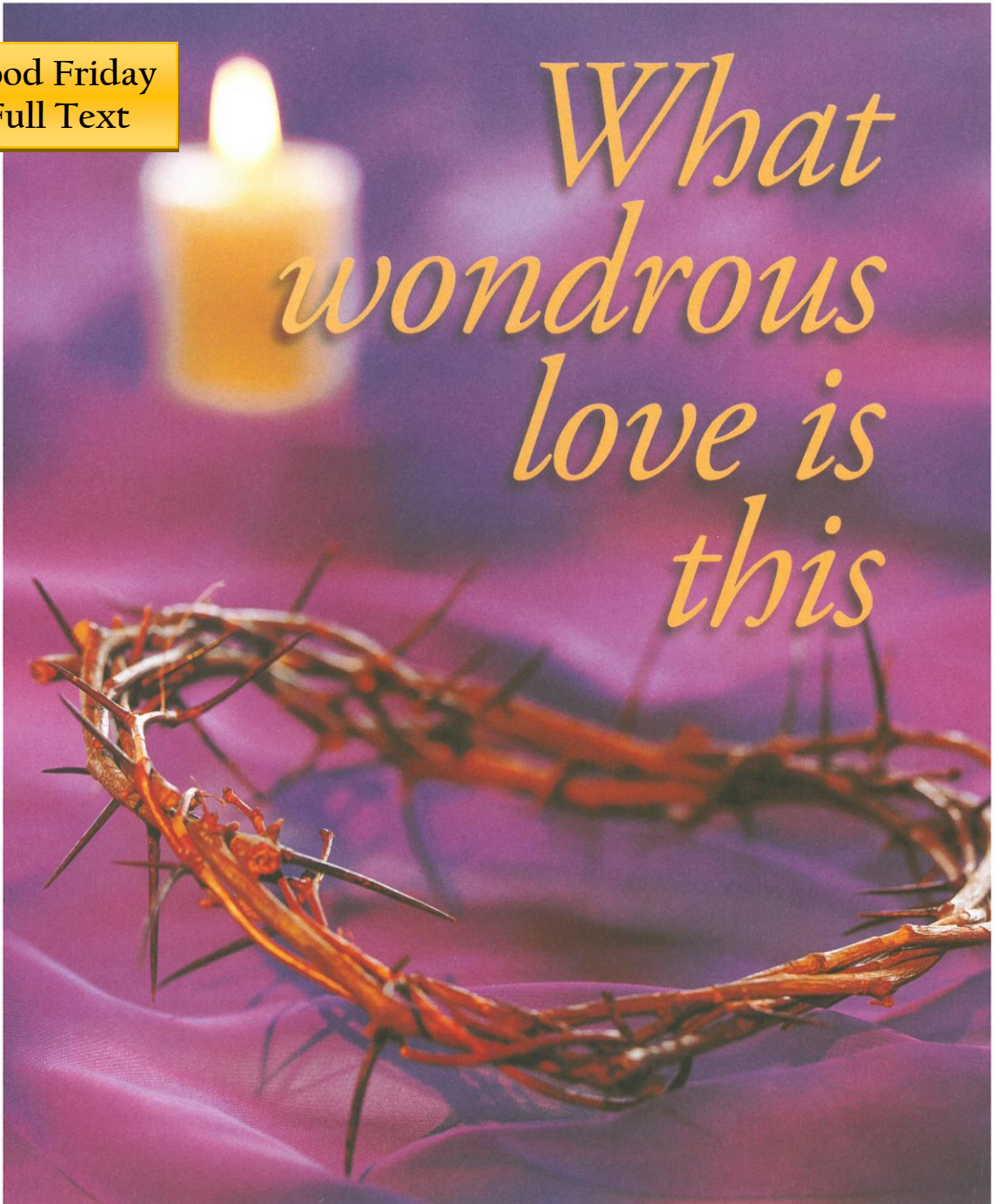


Good Friday
Full Text

*What
wondrous
love is
this*



Worship Celebration: April 10, 2020

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

On Good Friday, we continue our Holy Week journey through our Lord's darkest of days as we experience the Passion of Jesus Christ through the lens of some of the Stations of the Cross. We will explore some of Jesus' final human encounters on this earth, allowing ourselves to contemplate the parallels in our own lives. We invite you to light a candle at home and extinguish it when after Jesus dies, leaving ourselves in darkness. Christ has died. We await his Resurrection.

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VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☞ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☞

Prelude

O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile ... arr. Evelyn Morrison Doug Yetter, organ

WERE YOU THERE

A Tenebrae Service of Remembrance for Good Friday

There are seven Stations of the Cross, with candles in front of each lit at the beginning of the service. The candle in the center represents Jesus. As each candle is extinguished at the end of a section, lights in the sanctuary should also be turned off; the last sanctuary lights being turned off with the sixth candle. At the end, when the seventh candle is blown out, the sanctuary should be completely dark. We invite you to extinguish your candle at home when instructed to do so.

Introduction

Todd

Tonight we remember the death of Jesus.

Without his death, there would be no resurrection.

Without understanding Good Friday, there would be no Easter.

This is a Good Friday "Tenebrae" service –an ancient service of our church's tradition.

Tenebrae means "darkness" or "shadows" represented by the candles that are extinguished one by one until we are surrounded by darkness.

The service has no formal ending. We wait for the Alleluia! of Easter morning to conclude our Lenten journey.

Gather round
I have a story to tell
of one who reached inside himself
and took a handful of love
like a pile of stardust
and said: this is for you
it is all you need
it is all you will ever need
there is enough here
to change the whole world
take it

Many laughed at him
mocked him
and ignored the invitation

But some dared to take it
and those who did
noticed something about this love
They found they could do what the gift-giver could do
they could stand with the lost
welcome the traveler
eat with the hungry
They found themselves doing what the man first did to them
give something of themselves to others
They became like the man
offering themselves
and as they offered themselves
others took the invitation
and many still do
and many still trust
it is enough to change the whole world

What Wondrous Love Is This (v1)

UMH 292

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.

I. Jesus Carries his Cross

*Gospel Lesson

John 19:16-17

Todd

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.
So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

What Wondrous Love Is This (v2)

UMH 292

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.

II. Jesus Falls

Matthew 27:27-31

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 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!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord

UMH 285

1. To mock your reign, O dearest Lord, they made a crown of thorns;
 set you with taunts along that road from which no one returns.
 They could not know, as we do now, how glorious is that crown;
 that thorns would flower upon your brow, your sorrows heal our own.
2. In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord, they snatched a purple cloak;
 your passion turned, for all they cared, into a soldier's joke.
 They could not know, as we do now, that though we merit blame,
 you will your robe of mercy throw around our naked shame.
3. A sceptered reed, O patient Lord, they thrust into your hand,
 and acted out their grim charade to its appointed end.
 They could not know, as we do now, though empires rise and fall,
 your kingdom shall not cease to grow till love embraces all.

III. Jesus and his Mother

John 19:25-27

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Lamb of God

FWS 2113

1. Your only Son, no sin to hide,
but you have sent him from your side,
to walk upon this guilty sod,
and to become the Lamb of God.
2. Your gift of love they crucified
they laughed and scorned him as he died,
the humble king they named a fraud
and sacrificed the Lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!

O wash me in his precious blood – my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

3. I was so lost I should have died,
but you have brought me to your side,
to be led by your staff and rod,
and to be called a lamb of God. {Refrain twice}

IV. Simon Carries the Cross

Luke 23:26-27

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

Instrumental

V. Jesus Is Crucified

Luke 23:32-43

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done

nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Reflection

Rev. Vicki

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Why Has God Forsaken Me?

FWS 2110

1. “Why has God forsaken me?” cried out Jesus from the cross as he shared the loneliness of our deepest grief and loss.
2. At the tomb of Lazarus Jesus wept with open grief:
Grant us, God, the tears which heal all our pain and unbelief.
3. Jesus, as his life expired, placed himself within God’s care:
at our dying, Christ, may we trust the love which conquers fear.
4. Mystery shrouds our life and death but we need not be afraid,
for the mystery’s heart is love, God’s great love which Christ displayed.

VI. Jesus Dies

Luke 23:44-49

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”; and when he had said this he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Reflection

Rev. Vicki

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Anthem

I Believe...Mark A. Miller

I believe in the sun.
I believe in the sun, even when, even when it’s not shining.
I believe in the sun.
I believe in the sun, even when, even when it’s not shining.

I believe in love.
I believe in love, even when, even when I don’t feel it.
I believe in love.
I believe in love, even when, even when I don’t feel it.
I believe in love.
I believe in love, even when, even when I don’t feel it.
I believe in love.
I believe in love, even when, even when I don’t feel it.

I believe in God.
I believe in God, even when, even when God is silent.

VII. Jesus is Buried

Matthew 27:57-60

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be handed over. Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it [in] clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed.

Reflection

Rev. Vicki

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

What Wondrous Love Is This

UMH 292

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Our time of meditation ends in Silence. You are invited to meditate as long as you wish.

Easter Sunday Schedule

Easter Sunday, April 12

Worship Celebration & Communion

10:00 a.m.

Bulletins for the month of April are sponsored in memory of her husband, Ed Henriksen, by Barbara.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recordings may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Assisting with today's service as

Greeters:

Sound: Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman, Sofia Tamburello, Tommy Vyas

Ushers: Head Usher: Russ Mullen

Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:

Harvey Waltersdorf, Chet Sprague, Russ Mullen

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader:* Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Todd Shultz

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Accompanist:* Linda Jo Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries:* Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager:* Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Interim Administrative Assistant:* Barbara Kurtz ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee ... *ASL Interpreter:* Sandy Davis

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery:* Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent:* Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson...*Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



EPWORTH
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American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



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www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary