

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
April 18, 2025

Prelude: "Were You There?" Spiritual Arr. by L. Smith

Silence

Call to Worship

P: Let us meditate upon the seven last words of Jesus upon the Cross.

- "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)
- "I am thirsty." (John 19:28)
- "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)
- "Mother, behold your Son; Son, behold your Mother." (John 19:26-27)
- "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:45)
- "Father, into your hands I commend my Spirit." (Luke 23:46)
- "It is finished." (John 19:30)

***Hymn of Adoration: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #224**

***Greeting**

L: Today, God makes common cause with our human suffering.

**P: We read the Scriptures, sing the hymns, feel the feelings of the day
Christ died.**

L: Suffering is not rational. It has no answer.

P: But in the cross God meets us in our suffering.

L: From this day forward we know that there is nowhere we can go where
God is not with us.

P: God, unto Your hands we commend our spirits.

L: The promise of our faith is that if we call on the name of the Lord, our
God will remember our sin no more. Therefore, let us confess our
wrongdoing.

*** Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

Christ, at times we act as if we do not know You, at times we say to
You, "Away with him!" When we think of those times we weep and ask You to
forgive us. Amen.

(A time of silent confession follows.)

***Declaration of forgiveness**

Take heart, for we have a high priest, Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
who understands our human experience and sympathizes with our
weaknesses. He deals gently with the ignorant and the wayward and is the
source of our eternal salvation.

Anthem: "Lamb of God" Twila Paris

Chancel Drama: "The Innkeeper's Wife" by Janice Lonsinger

***Hymn: "On a Hill Far Away" #195**

The Passion Narrative According to St. John 19: 17 — 42
(During the reading a loud noise is made to signify Christ's death. After a period
of silence and meditation, a candle is brought to the altar to symbolize the
promise of Jesus's Resurrection.)

***Hymn: "What Wondrous Love Is This?" #223 (vs. 1 — 3)**

Evening Prayers –Lord's Prayer

Meditation about the Cross

P: Behold, the life-giving Cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole
world.

C: Oh, come let us worship the Christ, the Child of God.

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P: Behold, the life-giving Cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole
world.

C: Oh, come let us worship the Christ, the Child of God.

***Silence**

***Hymn: "Were You There?" #229**

Benediction

P: We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You.

C: By Your holy Cross You have redeemed the world.

P: This service is over.

C: May our service never end. Amen.

Threefold "Amen."

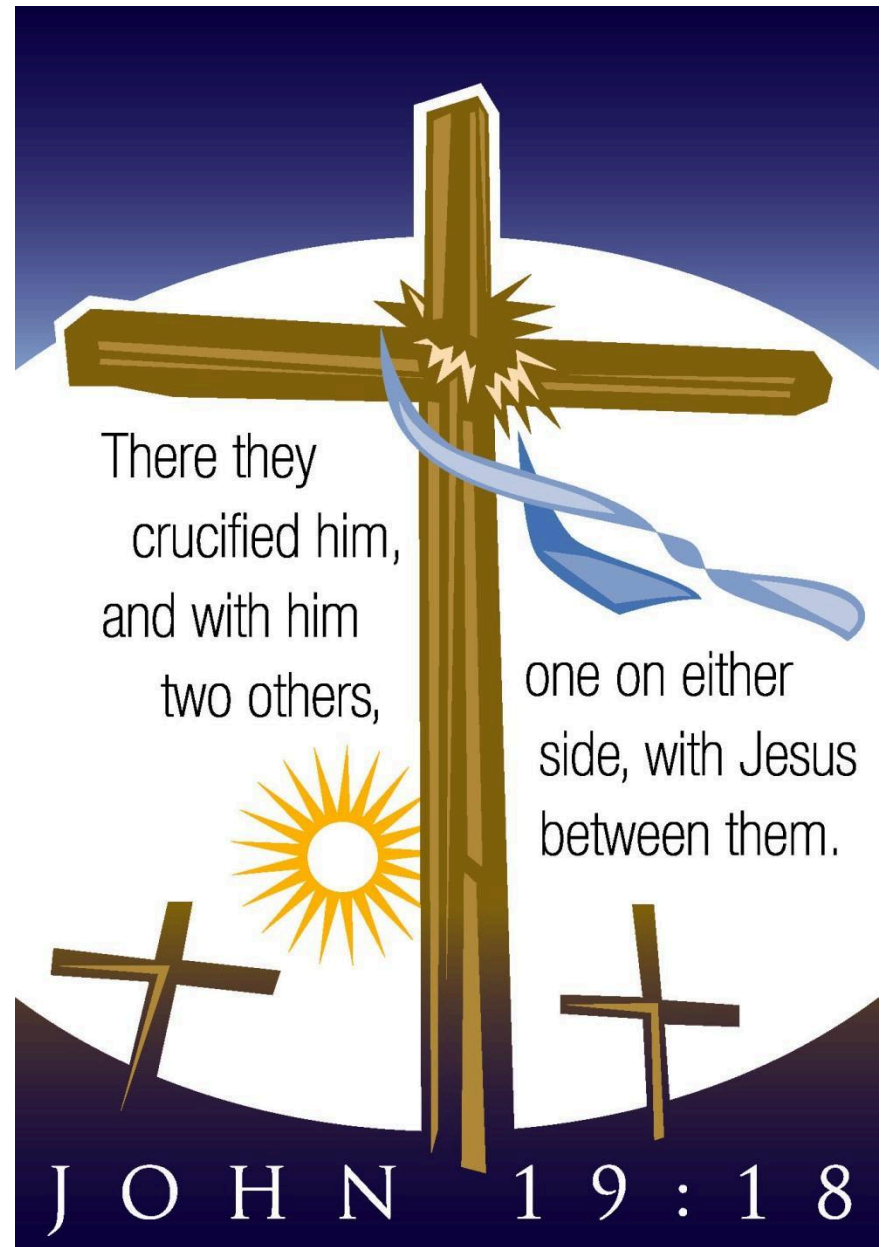
Postlude: "In the Cross of Christ I glory" Conbey/Schriveyner

**An offering plate has been placed in the back of the church.*

*****Thank you for being with us this evening.**

*****Please be with us on Easter Sunday morning for the Celebration of Jesus's Resurrection. A covered dish breakfast will be served at 9:15 AM. Worship with Holy Communion will begin at 10:45 AM.**

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Rev. John Emig Pastor
Claire White Organist
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