



But God demonstrates his own
love for us in this: While we were
still sinners, Christ died for us.

-Romans 5:8

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Friday, April 19th, 2019

1:00 P.M.

(The Service this afternoon asks us to reflect on the Cross and during the service there will be moments of silence for each of us to take time at the foot of the cross and find ourselves – a moment, several moments for the reality that we too, have need to realize the cost of God's act of redemption for the whole world.)

Welcome and Opening Words

Hymn Oh come and mourn with me a while # 237

Opening Prayer (Unison)

Loving God, you sent Jesus Christ to save us. We have betrayed him. We have denied him. We have abandoned, mocked, and crucified him. Have mercy, O God, have mercy on us; through Jesus Christ, our only hope. Amen.

Silence

Litany for Good Friday (on insert)

The Readings

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (NLT) The LORD's Suffering Servant

¹³See, my servant will prosper; he will be highly exalted.

¹⁴But many were amazed when they saw him. His face was so disfigured he seemed hardly human, and from his appearance, one would scarcely know he was a man.

¹⁵And he will startle many nations. Kings will stand speechless in his presence. For they will see what they had not been told; they will understand what they had not heard about. **53** Who has believed our message? To whom has the LORD revealed his powerful arm? ²My servant grew up in the LORD's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. ³He was despised and rejected — a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. ⁴Yet it was our

weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! ⁵ But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. ⁶ All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. ⁸ Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people. ⁹ He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave. ¹⁰ But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands. ¹¹ When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins. ¹² I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels.

Responsive Psalm 22:1-8

¹ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Why are you so far away when I groan for help?

² **Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer.
Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.**

³ Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴ **Our ancestors trusted in you, and you rescued them.**

⁵ They cried out to you and were saved. They trusted in you
and were never disgraced.

⁶ **But I am a worm and not a man. I am scorned and despised
by all!**

⁷ Everyone who sees me mocks me. They sneer and shake
their heads, saying,

⁸ **“Is this the one who relies on the Lord? Then let the Lord
save him! If the Lord loves him so much, let the Lord
rescue him!”**

Choir Anthem

If I had been

Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram

Hebrews 10:16-25

John 19

Hymn

Beneath the cross of Jesus

238

The Sermon

He was crucified

Solo

The Power of the Cross

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

Silence

Hymn

At the cross her vigil keeping

236

Prayer

Leader: How have we forsaken you, O God?
Where there is suffering, we turn our eyes.
Where there is exclusion, we turn our backs.
Where there is need, we turn our hearts. And yet,
we know that you are among the injured, and the
lonely, and the hungry, and the poor.

People: **How have we forsaken you, O God?** *Silence*
For those whose lives are torn apart by war, the
civilians and the soldiers and the families who are
waiting for loved ones to come home, Holy One, we
pray:

How have we forsaken you, O God? *Silence*

For those whose stomachs ache with hunger, Holy
One, we pray: *refugee communities without food,*
children whose only meal is school lunch, those who live
in our community searching for food...

How have we forsaken you, O God? *Silence*

For those whose bodies have no shelter from the
elements, Holy One, we pray:

How have we forsaken you, O God? *Silence*

For those who are imprisoned, justly or unjustly, Holy One, we pray: *prisoners of war, inmates in the prison, people awaiting sentencing...*

How have we forsaken you, O God? *Silence*

For those whose minds or spirits seek comfort and cannot find it, Holy One, we pray: *those who are grieving, in transition, mentally ill, jobless...*

How have we forsaken you, O God? *Silence*

Leader: Now is the acceptable time!

Help us to be your hands, Holy One,

reaching out to heal the hurting of this world.

Help us to be your ears, Holy One,

hearing and understanding to the cries for justice and mercy.

Help us to be your arms, Holy One,

embracing the sorrow and offering comfort.

Help us to be your feet, Holy One,

walking with those who suffer and guiding the journey toward peace.

Let us not forsake you any longer, O God.

Now is the acceptable time!

Hymn Were you there? # 233
(We will not sing the last verse)

Benediction

Announcements

We welcome all to this service this afternoon and pray that all will be blessed as we worship together and remember the grace given to us by Jesus Christ our Lord, this and every day of our lives.

There will be a retiring offering this afternoon to support The Cancer Patient Care Fund.

Thanks to Brad Gillespie for his part in the service and to Peter MacDonald and the choir for providing special music for the service this afternoon.

The Watoto Children's Choir, from Uganda, East Africa, will present their concert "We Will Go" on **Thursday, May 2nd, 2019 beginning at 6:00pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sydney Mines** (643 Main Street). This inspirational, high-energy concert is approximately 1 ½ hours in length and is age appropriate for young and old as well as everyone in between! Admission to this wonderful concert is FREE but there will be a Free Will Offering collected in support of Watoto's mission with children who have been impacted by the AIDS/HIV crisis. So save the date that's

Thursday, May 2nd at 6:00pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Sydney Mines. If you haven't seen these children before then this is one concert you should attend. For more information, please contact Rita at 902-736-2508

Annual Spring Tea Saturday May 4th from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Enjoy a cup of tea and sweets and meet with friends as we welcome Spring.

Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00pm, Bethel Church will be hosting the Centenary College Choir from Shreveport, Louisiana in the Church who will present a concert. A free-will offering will be taken to support the Bethel benevolent fund and the School's breakfast program. All are invited to attend.