

# GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

## *The Stations of the Cross*

Chalmers Presbyterian Church

19 April 2019 11:00 am

Musical Prelude

Call to Worship PWS&D Liturgy for Good Friday

\*Praise: Go to dark Gethsemane 230

**First Station: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane** Matthew 26:36-41

Silent Reflection: Where are we asleep when God-with-us is sorrowful unto death?

**Second Station: Jesus is betrayed and arrested** Mark 14:43-46

Silent Reflection: Where in our own lives do we betray the Lord?

**Third Station: Jesus is denied by Peter .** Matthew 26:69-75

Silent Reflection: In what ways do we deny Christ?

Praise: The Wonderful Cross

**Fourth Station: Jesus is judged by Pontius Pilate.** Mark 15: 1-5, 15

Silent Reflection: Where has our desire to appease others hurt Christ's body?

Praise: Beneath the cross of Jesus 238

**Fifth Station: Jesus is condemned by the crowd to bear the cross.**

John 19:6, 15-17

Silent Reflection: Where in the world do crowds still call for the crucifixion of innocents?

Praise: When I survey the wondrous cross 231 (1,3-4)

**Sixth Station: Jesus is crucified.** Luke 23: 33-34

Silent reflection: While we were crucifying him, Christ prayed for our forgiveness.

Choir anthem: Lamb of God

**Seventh Station: Jesus speaks to his mother and the beloved disciple.**

John 19:25-27

Silent reflection: Consider the kind of family Christ wants us to be.

Praise: Above all

**Eighth Station: Jesus dies on the cross.**

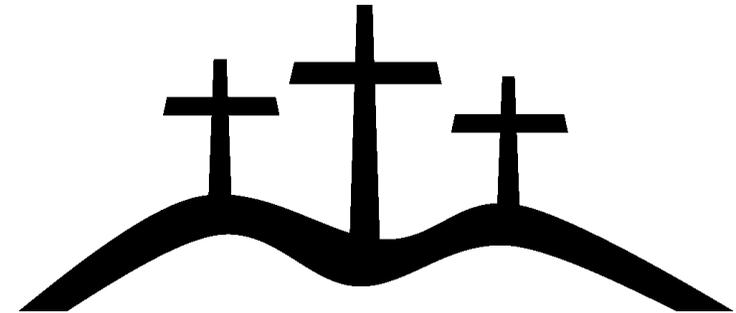
Luke 23:44-46

Silent reflection:

Praise: The Old Rugged Cross

The Way of the Cross (You may follow the cross to its place outside.)

The Benediction (outdoors by the three crosses)



### **Lamb of God by Twila Paris**

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.

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.

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.

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

O wash me in his precious blood, till I am just a lamb of God.

# A Time Called ... GOOD FRIDAY

*A woman lamented the poor attendance of church members at her church's Good Friday worship: "If we can't even bear the cost of one hour to hear the story of Jesus' death, how can we begin to consider and how can we begin to fathom the cost he bore for us, and how deeply we are loved?"*

## **Historical Roots of Good Friday**

In the early church, this was a day for fasting in preparation for the great festival of Easter. By the late 4th century, a service existed with readings from Isaiah and Hebrews, and the Gospel accounts of Jesus' trial and death, as well as prayers and devotion to the cross. Later, this service sometimes included the Lord's Supper. Protestant churches might draw on traditions of the Three Hour Devotion (readings and meditations on the seven last words of Jesus, focusing on the three hours of his dying). Others may use a reading of and meditation on the Gospel accounts of Jesus' death. The Lord's Supper is not generally included in these services.

## **Finding Meaning in the Tradition**

On this dark day, we know that Jesus will be raised. But giving the events their own day reminds us that new life comes at great cost and by way of a cross - this cross. In the same way, baptism is not just about rising with Christ, but dying and rising with him. Part of our baptismal identity is given to us today, giving us the courage to face the pain, suffering, and injustice in our lives and in our world. Seeing those things through the Good Friday story, we glimpse the promise of Easter.

## **Questions for Personal Meditation**

- ◆ What troubles me in this story? Could it become a prayer?
- ◆ How do I "get into" this story and make it part of my faith story?
- ◆ What questions would I like to ask God about this story?
- ◆ What questions does God ask of me?

The special Easter envelopes and loose offering will be designated to the Cyclone Idai response through PWS&D (50%) and the London Community Chaplaincy (50%). Thank you for your gifts.

You are invited to Chalmers' Easter sunrise worship at 7am and our 10am celebration with Holy Communion

