

Sunset United Church



April 2, 2021- Good Friday

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

Children & Youth Minister:

Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)

Reader: Mark Pitman (he/him)

Special Music: Sunset Covid Choir

Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory, is an Affirming community of faith. All are welcome here.

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music

Call to Worship*

We have been here before -

A place of grieving and mourning.

We have been here before -

A day that seems it won't end.

We have been here before -

Knee deep in fear, knee deep in doubt.

We have been here before -

Good Friday, the day before Christ died.

So once again, we find ourselves here –

In community, in God's arms.

Where else would we go when the world falls apart? Let us worship holy God.

Hymn: VU#182 Stay with Us Through the Night **

1. *Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning breaks again.*

2. *Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the grief.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
till the morning brings relief.*

3. *Stay with us through the night.
Stay with us through the dread.
Stay with us, blessed stranger
Till the morning breaks new bread.*

Call to Confession*

**Holy God,
We admit that we struggle with this day.
We struggle with Good Friday
For three reasons.
First, no one likes to see another suffer.
On this day we are face to face with the cross,**

And your suffering is hard for us to bear.
Second, the pain of this day
Reminds us of the pain of past and present days,
And our own pain is hard for us to bear.
Third, we are reminded of the suffering
we cast onto others,
which means we have to confront
the pain we have caused you.
So forgive us for skirting
Around the edges of this day.
Forgive us for averting our eyes
And avoiding the sinking feeling in our chests.
Forgive us for distracting ourselves
From the hurt,
And forgive us for the ways
In which we add to the suffering of the world.
We do not like to be here –
A place of grief and despair,
At the foot of the cross,
Face to face with state sanctioned violence.
And yet, here is where we are.
So forgive us,
And then use us for your good.
Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Words of Forgiveness*:

Family of faith,
Even on this day,
Even at the foot of the cross,
Even here,
Even now,
Christ is saying
“Forgive them. They know not what they do.”

We often don't feel that we deserve this grace,
But we receive it nonetheless.
Say these words aloud with me,
And trust that they belong to you:

**In my best and worst moments,
I am a child of God.
Nothing can separate me from that truth,
Not even death.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Sharing the Story

Scripture: Mark 14: 1-2, 10-11, 17-19

JUDAS

Hymn: VU#148 Jesus, Remember Me ***

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

Scripture: Mark 14: 53-65

THE HIGH PRIEST

Hymn: VU#148 Jesus, Remember Me

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you*

come into your kingdom.

Scripture: Mark 14: 26-31

PETER'S STORY

Hymn: VU#148 **Jesus, Remember Me**

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

Scripture: Mark 15: 1-15

PILATE'S STORY

Scripture: Mark 15: 16-20

A SOLDIER'S STORY

Hymn: VU#148 **Jesus, Remember Me**

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

Scripture: Mark 15: 21-32

SIMON OF CYRENE

Hymn: VU#148 Jesus, Remember Me

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

*Jesus, remember me when you
come into your kingdom.*

Scripture: Mark 15: 33-41

MARY MAGDALENE

Hymn: VU#134 Shadows Gather, Deep and Cold ****

1. *Shadows gather, deep and cold;
lamplight flickers, fades and fails.
Lord, you know what daybreak holds:
thorns and beatings, cross and nails.
You will be denied, betrayed
when the rooster wakes the sun.
Yet you kneel alone and pray,
'Not my will, but thine be done.'*
2. *In the watches of the night,
in the hour when darkness reigns,
in the grief that has no light,
in the time of fear and pain,
then we hold fast to your way,
to the victory you have won.
Jesus, teach us how to pray,
'Not my will, but thine be done.'*

End in silence



* Prayers by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org

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