

Good Friday

7:30pm

PRELUDE

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"
Linda Dover, piano

arr. John Carter

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Today God makes common cause with our human suffering.

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

Suffering is not rational. It has no answer.

But in the cross God meets us in our suffering.

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

God, into your hands we commend our spirits. Luke 23:46

*HYMN 215, st. 1 & 4

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

WONDROUS LOVE

CALL TO CONFESSION

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

Christ, at times we act as if we do not know you, at times we say of you, "Away with him!"
When we think of those times we weep and ask you to forgive us. Even now, we offer up to you the times we have sinned against you or others.

(Silent prayer of confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Take heart, for we have a high priest, Jesus Christ, the son of God, who understands our human experience and is present in our weakness. Jesus deals gently with us and is the source of our eternal salvation.

CHORAL REFLECTION

+"How Great Thou Art"

arr. Nathan L. Hofheins

Chancel and Exaltation! Singers

Rebecca Prater, director – Linda Dover, piano

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my burden gladly bearing he bled and died to take away my sin.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 Silence

SUNG PRAYER

"The Ground"

by Ola Gjeilo

Chancel and Exaltation! Singers

Patrick O'Halloran, director – Linda Dover, piano

Latin translation:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:16-25

Silence

HYMN 221

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

PASSION CHORALE

THE THIRD READING

Matthew 27:27-44

Silence

CHORAL REFLECTION "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

Chancel and Exaltation! Singers

Patrick O'Halloran, director – Linda Dover, organ

THE FOURTH READING

Matthew 27:45-61

Silence

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"Were You There?"

arr. Jay Althouse

Katie Hearn, flute – Linda Dover, piano

African American Spiritual

SING HYMN 228, st. 5 (on cue)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Repeat)

O! --- Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

TOLLING OF THE BELL AND STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

(Symbols representing Christ's earthly presence are carried out of the sanctuary as the bell is rung thirty-three times in recognition of Jesus' life on earth.)

DEPART IN SILENCE

* = please stand if convenient/able

+This evening's anthem, "How Great Thou Art" arr. Nathan L. Hofheins was donated in memory of Marcie Sisk Monrad's father, Wendell A. Sisk (1924-2020).

Beloved father and friend, by Terri & Matt Monrad and Marcie & Drew Monrad.

September 2020.

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EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES - 9:00 AND 11:00AM

Come and join us as we celebrate the resurrection this Sunday, April 17, in Grace Covenant's traditional unique way. As always this will be a glorious celebration with marvelous music, a beautifully decorated sanctuary, holy scripture, the sacrament of communion, and good, good news. Invite a neighbor! (There will be no Sunday school on Easter Sunday.)

