

The Worship
of God

**Good
Friday**

April 7, 2023 |
7:00p

Inspired by the bold and boundless hospitality of Jesus, we are “open to all,” which means we welcome and accept all people into the life of our Church without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, economic status, political affiliation, physical or mental capacity, or religious belief. We believe that God’s call is given to all people, and we embrace the Spirit that continues to cross boundaries in order to unite the world.

Masks are encouraged but not required for anyone. We encourage you to make the best decision for yourself and your family.

The Prelude

“Prelude on ROCKINGHAM”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ
Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988))

The Choral Introit

“O The Lamb”

O the Lamb the loving Lamb, the Lamb of Calvary.
The Lamb that was slain yet lives again to bring wholeness to me.

Chancel Choir
arr. J. Kevin Gray (b. 1976)

The Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

***The Opening Hymn**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

O WALY WALY

The Choral Anthem

“And No Bird Sang”

Calm was the wind and dark was the sky, when our Lord came to die;
lone, on the cross out of love he did hang, and no bird sang.
Women and men with anguish and fear, then to his cross drew near,
hushed then to feel the bitter, bitter pang, no bird sang.
Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy, God’s will be done, eleison.
No bird sang in the sky, when Christ did come to die.

Chancel Choir
Douglas E. Wagner (b. 1952)

The Invitation to Silent Reflection

Rev. Tara Gibbs

The Prayer of Confession

Distant God,
We repent of small misdeeds to satisfy our consciences,
for we cannot deal with our denial of you.
We seek to find life apart from you,
for the cross is too threatening for us.
We want comfort, not sacrifice.
We embrace privilege, not pain.
Yet the love of Christ brings us to our knees in awe and wonder.
O God, we want to lay aside our preoccupation with self
to become full participants in your realm.
Rescue us from ourselves, O God.
Deliver us from sin and bring us home. Amen.

The Last Supper – Matthew 26: 17-30 (NRSV adapted)

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples, and while they were eating he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.” While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom.” When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

*The Communion Hymn

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

LET US BREAK BREAD

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

[Refrain]:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]

The Invitation to the Table

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

Our God who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Words of Institution

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

All are invited to participate in Communion. You may come forward to the front of the Sanctuary to receive bread and juice or pre-packaged, gluten-free elements.

If you prefer to be served at your seat, please raise your hand and a Minister will assist you

The Music at Communion

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

The Stripping of the Communion Table and Altar

I. The Arrest – Matthew 26: 47-56 (NRSV adapted)

Rev. Carrie Veal

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to God, and who will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?” At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Hymn of Response

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

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

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

II. The Denial – Matthew 26: 69-75 (NRSV)

Wanjiku Mwangi

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Hymn of Response

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

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

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

III. The Trial – Matthew 26: 57-67 (NRSV adapted)

Fran Morrison

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’” The high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?” But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high

priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him.

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Hymn of Response

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

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

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

IV. The Sentencing – Matthew 27: 1-2, 11-26 (NRSV adapted)

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor. Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” And he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released for them Barabbas, and having whipped and tortured Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Hymn of Response

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

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

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

The Stripping of the Paraments and Stoles

V. The Crucifixion – Matthew 27: 27-44 (NRSV adapted)

Rev. Tara Gibbs

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they

compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, for he said, ‘I am God’s Son.’” The rebels who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Hymn of Response

“What Wondrous Love”

WONDROUS LOVE

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the heavy cross for my soul!**

VI. The Death – Matthew 27:45-51, 54 (NRSV)

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split.

Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

The Extinguishing of the Tenebrae Candle

The Solo

“See Jesus Christ Our Lord”

J. Kevin Gray (b. 1976)

See Jesus Christ our Lord, who by man's hate was lifted high upon the cross.
Through love he drew the whole world unto himself.
And by his suffering and death transformed the world by showing God's very nature.
See now God's great love for you and me, God's love, God's love for all.

David Young, tenor

VII. The Burial – Matthew 27: 55-61 (NRSV)

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, looking at the tomb.

The Hymn of Response

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

The Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

The Stripping of the Bible and the Cross

The Watch

After the ministers have departed, there will be a period of silence representing Christ's invitation to his disciples to stay and pray with him in the Garden of Gethsemane. Choose the length of time you wish to stay and pray, and then depart in silence. The Labyrinth is open day and night for walking meditation.

Leading worship today with Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister,
are Rev. Carrie Veal, Executive Minister,
Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan, Campus Administrator,
Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice,
Rev. Tara Gibbs, Associate Minister of Spiritual Formation,
Wanjiku Mwangi,
and Frances L. Morrison.

Leading worship through music are
J. Kevin Gray, Minister of Music and Worship,
the Chancel Choir,
Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist,
and David Young, Tenor.

Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann,
Hannah Combs and volunteers.



The cover art for this service is from a Stations of the Cross series painted by men who have also been condemned to die.



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HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist is as simple as filling out a Joining Card. To receive a card or learn more, contact Rev. Carrie Veal at cveal@myersparkbaptist.org.



Our Covenant

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God's New Creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant together to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in the world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on Earth.

OUR MINISTERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Boswell

Senior Minister

Rev. Carrie Veal

Executive Minister

Rev. Tara Gibbs

Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

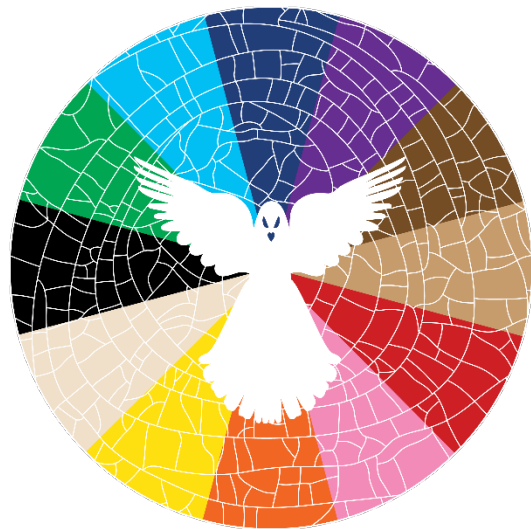
Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Justice

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

Campus Administrator

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

We occasionally take photographs during our worship service. If you would prefer not to be included, please contact Laura Geer | Communications Director | lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org.

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