

WORSHIP OUTLINE

GOOD FRIDAY

March 29, 2024

- Set up similar to Lent 2023. Purple lights – yes. Fabric draped on altar – yes. Lights dimmed – yes. *Standing Cross will be set up in area to the left of the ambo with cross, nails, and hammers.

Welcome – Michael from up front

Welcome. We have come together tonight, to make time and create a special space to remember. We stop our busyness at work and school, play and study, and we remember. We remember the day when Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried. As strange as it is to hear, we call this day, this night, Good Friday.

Tonight, worship may seem to have a different feel or rhythm as we will sit quietly, thinking, and praying about what we hear and what we feel. It is okay to feel confused or even sad. It is okay to have many questions and to want the answers right away. If you have questions, ask quietly – try to fully present in what is happening and experience it – in silence. Let's prepare ourselves...

(pause)

I invite you to close your eyes.

To take a deep breath in...and now release it out. Take another deep breath and this time, slowly and quietly let it out. We welcome music to fill this time of worship as we receive the gift of air from God in the breathing in and out.

(pause)

Quiet song of reflection – “**NONE BUT JESUS**” – Sung multiple times.

Gathering

Joel: We come into this space, this holy place as God's children.
This space has been set-apart because of God's love for us.
Through Jesus' death on the cross, our sins are gone.

Pastor Katie - Together we pray:

Loving God, on this night, help us to feel your loving arms around us. Be with us as we think and feel the fulness of what it means to be part of your story of love, your story of grace on this night called, Good Friday.
We pray in your name, Jesus Christ. Amen

Song – “Love the Lord” Natalie Fersdahl doing Sign Language

Sharing time – with Pastor Katie

- *Power point with the SPARK version of the story (pg 476-481) PK will read.*
- *Tell people about the curtain was torn and there was a loud sound – tonight you while we sing Were You There – you will hear a loud sound...*
- *PK will explain 3 prayer stations:
one at the cross in the sanctuary, one is labyrinth on Level 3, one is to take home kit
Jason and Ruby Shire made a cross to nail into – it is in the closet in narthex next to “old” welcome station.*

Song- THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

Call to Confession

Pastor Steve: Jesus, our Savior, was both God and human all in one being.
This is hard for us to understand as humans.

Maybe we only think about our own mistakes, our own sins, and question why would Jesus, who never ever failed, who was never sinful, would be treated like a criminal, beaten, and be put on a cross to die?

Maybe we are embarrassed or afraid to trust that Jesus would humble himself for our sake.

We need to ask God for forgiveness. We confess trusting in God’s gift of grace.

P: We all, like sheep, have gone astray.

We have all turned to our own way.

We have sinned and have been the cause

of Christ's suffering.
Please forgive us, we pray.
Remove the sins that distance us from you
and from those we love and care about.
Remove our selfishness, our pride, our envy,
and our greed.
Remove from us our thoughtless acts
and words that hurt one another.
Remove from us the tendency to hurt others
out of revenge and anger.
Forgive us please.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord.
And renew in us a right spirit. Amen.

Another pastor/person says:

We turn our back away from God as if that act has the power to hide, cover-up, or erase our sinfulness. A life far away from God is not what God intended for God's children of all ages.

We want what we want, when and how we want it, even if what we want hurts God, others, or even ourselves. We need Jesus. We ask for forgiveness.

<Pause>

P: I invite everyone to come forward, take a nail and pound it into the cross. You will come forward as you are comfortable and ready to do so.

Write or draw a note of what you are asking Jesus to forgive...take a nail...and nail that into the cross – and leave it there.

Then move to the altar – and kneel...receive the words of comfort...child of God, your sins are forgiven.

Quietly return to your seats.

Come to the altar – OH COME TO THE ALTAR/ABOVE ALL

Pastors and Michael (Daniel?): invite people to be blessed after they have hammered in their nail - place hands on the head of each person –
Pastor/Michael (Daniel) say: hear the words, Child of God, your sins are forgiven.

If – we complete the singing before people are done hammering nails – Joel will keep playing.

Pastor has one last – Blessing

Lights are dimmed...further

*Song –**WERE YOU THERE**– only first 2 verses sung by congregation – Joel then finishes the song – with the final verse without instrument and only Joel*

At the end of the song – there is one large sound – this marks the end of the earthly life of Jesus...we won't scare anyone – but the sound should startle people
**** Need a big sound!**

Closing Prayer:

P: Jesus, we wait here in the darkness...

We are carrying our grief and sadness.

(pause)

It is now finished. God of beginnings and of endings, God of light and darkness, God of great loss, be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

Amen

Leave the sanctuary in silence