

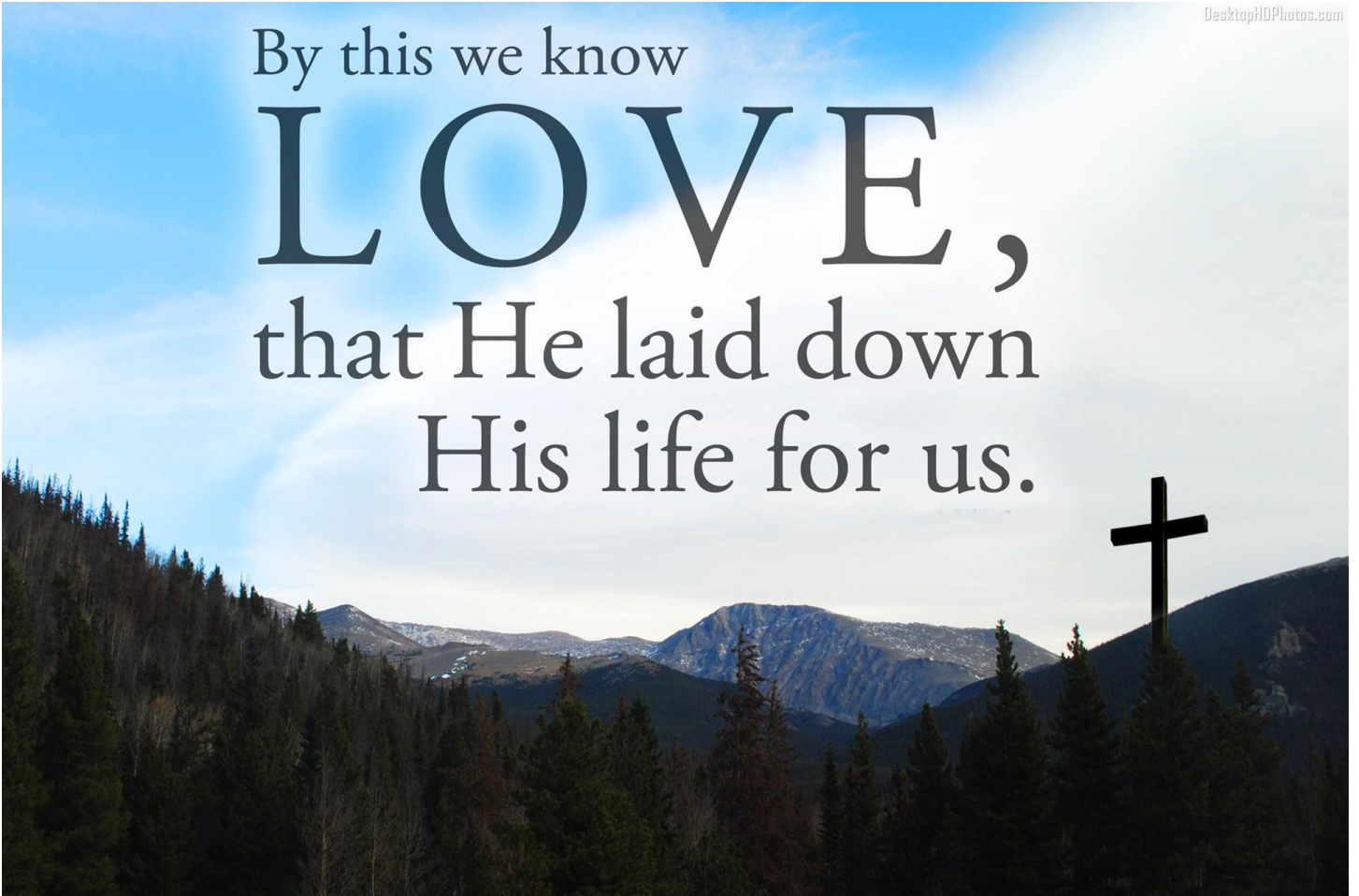


PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES
Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All

By this we know

LOVE,
that He laid down
His life for us.

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GOOD FRIDAY

"The Seven Last Words"

April 10, 2020

Virtual Worship Service

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE: Althea Wright *"In the Garden"* by Austin Miles arr. by John Innes

SPECIAL MUSIC: Solo by Bill Morgan *"Were You There?"* African American Spiritual

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively): Pastor Cindy Alloway

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

We gather here to remember the last words of Jesus.

We gather to remember how Jesus suffered and died for us and to thank God for unconditional love and gracious mercy. Let us worship God!

*HYMN #216 *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* St. Christopher

*Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.*

*Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of one who suffered there for me:
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.*

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION (responsively): Nancy Morgan

Merciful God - as we remember how your son, Jesus Christ, bore our sins in his body on the cross and how seven times he spoke Words of love; we ask you to bless our hearing and our understanding.

As we recall how for three hours he cried for mercy on the souls of all, we ask you to help us comprehend the mystery of such amazing grace and unconditional love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Room at the Cross for Me"* by Ira Stanphill arr. by Fred Bock

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

THE FIRST WORD: Luke 23:33-34

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

"Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

MEDITATION ON THE FIRST WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. *(Extinguishing of the candle)*

HYMN #215 "What Wondrous Love Is This" (vs.1,2)

Walker's Southern Harmony

*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 dreadful curse for my
soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!*

*When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking
down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his
crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!*

THE SECOND WORD: Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals who was crucified beside Jesus kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other criminal rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into * your kingdom.' He replied, '**Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.**'

MEDITATION ON THE SECOND WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. *(Extinguishing of the candle)*

HYMN #227

"Jesus Remember Me" (Sing through 3x)

Jacques Berthier

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

THE THIRD WORD: John 19:25-27

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, **'Here is your mother.'**

MEDITATION ON THE THIRD WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. *(Extinguishing of the candle)*

THE FOURTH WORD: Mark 15:33-34

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Elo-i, elo-i, lama sabach-thani?" which means, **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"**

MEDITATION ON THE FOURTH WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. (*Extinguishing of the candle*)

HYMN #221 "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" Hans Leo Hassler, 1601

*O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown.
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.*

*What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
look on me with Thy favor, vouchsafe to me Thy grace.*

*What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest Friend,
for this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever! And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for Thee.*

THE FIFTH WORD: John 19:28

After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (in order to fulfill the scripture), **"I thirst."**

MEDITATION ON THE FIFTH WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. (*Extinguishing of the candle*)

THE SIXTH WORD: John 19:29-30

A jar full of sour wine was there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and lifted it up to his lips. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, **"It is finished."**

MEDITATION ON THE SIXTH WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole.

(Extinguishing of the candle)

HYMN

"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" American spiritual

Jesus walked this lonesome valley.

He had to walk it by Himself;

O, nobody else could walk it for Him,

He had to walk it by Himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley,

We have to walk it by ourselves;

O, nobody else can walk it for us,

We have to walk it by ourselves

THE SEVENTH WORD: Matthew 27: 50-51

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.

SILENT MEDITATION ON THE SEVENTH WORD

Lord Jesus - you gave your life for us.

You suffered and died that we might be made whole. *(Extinguishing of the last candle)*

RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 53-4-6,9

Surely he has borne our grief and carried our sorrows,

yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities.

**All of us like sheep have gone astray; each of us turned to our own way;
and the Lord laid upon him the iniquity of us all.**

He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, although he had done no violence nor was any deceit in his mouth.

HYMN #228

"Were You There" (verse 1-2)

African American Spiritual

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?

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?

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Pastor Cindy Alloway

Lord God, you have given us everything. **You have not held anything back.**

Help us in like manner to give of ourselves.

**Bless us and all that we think, feel, say, and do that we,
like Jesus, may be a blessing to the earth and all of creation.**

We ask this and all things through Jesus Christ who taught us to pray saying:

(The Lord's prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN # 228 *"Were You There" (verse 4-5) African American Spiritual*

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?

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?

BENEDICTION

Depart now in peace - and may the Spirit of Christ, go with you, may his faith and trust abide within you, and may the knowledge of his deep love support you now and forevermore. Amen

(In silence, notes of mercy are taken from the cross and placed in the fire pit, symbolizing Christ's flame of love turning our burdens into ashes.)

POSTLUDE: Solo by Bill Morgan

"Cup of Sorrow"

"Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross"

by Emma Lou Diemer

Hymns: *Myles and Dee Andrea Ellis*

Soloist: *Bill Morgan*

Piano: *Althea Wright*

Liturgists: *Norm Smith, Linda Burille, Deborah Baker, Diane Osten, Bill Morgan, Nancy Morgan*