

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

182nd Anniversary Year ~ 1833-2015

~WORSHIP~

Good Friday

April 3, 2015 ~ 10:30 am



Minister: Rev. K. Alice McAlpine

Organist & Choir Director: Doreen Gilbert Bangs

Call to Worship:

Leader: The cries of adulation have given way to taunts and jeers.

People: The gentle sight of a Saviour on a donkey has given way to pain.

Leader: The smell of fresh cut branches underfoot has given way to the smell of fear and death.

All: Come, O God, and be with us even in the time of abandonment and tears.

Singing: *There is a Green Hill Far Away* VU#152

Prayer ~

O God, this day we stand before the cross as Mary and the disciple John did long ago. Surely we cannot feel the same anguish as they who stood breathing in the midday dust and aroma of vinegar, they who heard the talk of the soldiers and the cries of the dying, they who saw the pain pictured in flesh and blood. But with Your help, that moment becomes present for us. The imagination of our spirits becomes the reality by which we live. The voice reaching down from the cross lifts us to new faith and hope.

We offer thanks for the love of Jesus, for the lesson of grace that not only touches us but also takes hold of us and bids us embrace others with caring. The crowd of witnesses has grown, and the words of Jesus still remind us that none of us are needless, none of us are intended to be lonely. For behold, we are called together, brothers and sisters in Jesus' name, children in God's service. Amen.

O Lord, help us relive this day in Your life that we may relive Your life in our day. You went to Your death—the innocent for the guilty, the gentle for the violent, the obedient for the rebellious—opening not Your mouth. Now we have learned that, before our world can experience a resurrection like Yours, we must realize why You died; You died that we might live. Teach us how to accept Your death, O Christ, that we might live as You lived—for God and for others. Amen

Singing: *Ride on, Ride on in Majesty* VU#127 vs.1

The First Reading: Luke 22: 39-45
Jesus prays in Gethsemane

Singing: *Go to Dark Gethsemane* VU#133 vs. 1

The Second Reading: Luke 22: 47-48, 52-53
Jesus's Betrayal and Arrest

Singing: *Lord, is it I?* SOG#32 vs. 1 & chorus

The Third Reading: Luke 22: 54-62
Peter's Denial

Singing: SOG#32 chorus only

A Prayer of Confession

The Fourth Reading: Luke 22: 63- 71; Luke 23:1-12
Jesus in Court

Singing: SOG#32 chorus only

The Fifth Reading: Luke 23: 13-25
Jesus is Sentenced

Anthem: *I Think I Heard Him Say*

The Sixth Reading: Luke 23: 26-28, 32-43
Jesus is crucified

Singing: *O Sacred Head Sore Wounded* VU#145 vs.1,2

The Seventh Reading: Luke 23: 44-46
Jesus Dies

Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

Silence

Singing: *The Old Rugged Cross* SOG#5

Epilogue: Luke 23:47-56
Reaction & Jesus's Burial

Reflections ~ "The Day God Became Weak"

Closing Prayer

Singing: *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross* VU#142

Benediction