

Friday, April 7, 2023

Good Friday is the Friday before Easter, the day on which Christians annually observe the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Why is it called Good Friday? That terrible Friday has been called Good Friday because it led to the death of Jesus and his victory over death and sin. It is before the celebration of Easter, in which we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. As people of faith, we cannot have Easter unless we commemorate Good Friday.

Some sources indicate that the name Good Friday is derived from God's Friday, just as goodbye is derived from the blessing: "God be with you". On this Good Friday, we honour the holiness of this day and the blessing of God with all of us.

Joint Service with St. Andrew's River Heights and Westworth United Churches

(Adapted from Creative Worship, written & edited by: Ian Price & Carolyn Kitto, p. 85-99.)

PREFACE

The service is based on the seven last words of Jesus and juxtaposes his suffering with the suffering of the world. At the conclusion of the service, you will be invited to respond (if you wish) through a reaffirmation of the blessing and commissioning of your baptism. This will take place in the back of the church around the baptismal font as you leave.

You may leave an offering in the plates at the back. Loose change will go to 1JustCity.

Following the benediction, you are welcome to remain for a few minutes of silent reflection before you leave quietly.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect the Indigenous peoples of this land. We share the responsibilities and privileges of living, working and worshipping on Treaty 1 territory, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree and Dakota Nations and homeland of the Métis Nation. We receive water from Shoal Lake on Treaty 3 land, and Hydro power from all 5 treaty lands in Manitoba. We are all Treaty People.



Order of Service

GATHERING: Rest In Peace (Final chorus from "St. John Passion") J. S. Bach

O Sacred Head, sore wounded (Passion Chorale) arr. Johann Kuhnau

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to remember:

the suffering of Christ; the suffering of the world. We come to grieve:

the pain and death of Christ; the pain and death in the world.

We come to pray:

for God's forgiveness and for our forgiveness of others.

We come to give thanks:

for the suffering of God for the sake of the world.

OPENING PRAYER

THE FIRST OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF RACISM

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn for those suffering because of their race. As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for those who bear the thorns of racism.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23:32-34a

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord have mercy.

ANTHEM: "Ah, Holy Jesus" HERZLIEBSTER JESU Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; setting by John Ferguson - Vijay Chalasani, Viola

THE SECOND OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF IMPRISONMENT

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn for those suffering because of their imprisonment.

As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for those who bear the thorns of imprisonment.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23:39-43

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord have mercy.

HYMN: **VU136** "O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile"

THE THIRD OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF BEING REFUGEES

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn for those suffering because they are refu-

As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for those who bear the thorns of being refugees.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: John 19:25b-27

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

ANTHEM: "Yet There is Room" (text, Fanny Crosby; music, Lou Ann Shafer)

THE FOURTH OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF WAR

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn for those suffering from war.

As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for those who bear the thorns of war.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 27:45-46

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

ANTHEM: "Were You There?" WERE YOU THERE traditional spiritual; arr. Robert Scholz

THE FIFTH OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF MURDERS AND DISAP-PEARANCES OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn because of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls.

As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for the families of those who bear the thorns of the murders and disappearances of Indigenous mothers, daughters, sisters and aunties.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: John 19:28-29

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

HYMN: VU137 "The Love That Clothes Itself in

Light" O WALY, WALY

THE SIXTH OF JESUS' LAST WORDS;
THE THORNS OF HOMELESSNESS

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn for homelessness.

As we suffer You suffer We pray:

As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for those who bear the thorns of homelessness.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: John 19:30

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have

mercy.

HYMN: **VU696** "Homeless People, Will You Listen"

THE SEVENTH OF JESUS' LAST WORDS; THE THORNS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DE-STRUCTION

Christ Jesus, you wear the crown of thorns. It is a crown worn because of the suffering of the earth. As we suffer, You suffer. We pray for the earth as it bears the thorns of environmental destruction.

HYMN: VU154 "Why Has God Forsaken Me" vs. 1

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23:44-46

REFLECTION

INTERCESSION

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have

mercy.

ANTHEM: I Wonder Why? (Richard Avery and

Donald Marsh, arr. Lloyd Pfautsch)

CLOSING PRAYER

BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING OF THE

CRUCIFIED CHRIST

Thank you to the choirs of St. Andrew's River Heights and Westworth United Churches.

Readers: Khal Shariff and Bruce Tefft

Choral Directors: Katy Harmer and Ruth Wiwchar

Organists: Wes Elias and Dorcas Windsor

Violist Vijay Chalasani

Ministers: Karen Lumley and Loraine MacKenzie

Shepherd

ST. ANDREW'S CONTACT LIST

Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who helped with today's service—we couldn't have pulled it off without you!

Clergy	Rev. Karen Lumley	klumley@standrewsriverheights.com
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