

St. James United Church

March 25, 2016: 7pm

Walking to the Cross – Good Friday Worship

Minister: Rev. Terrie Jackson
Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
Choir: Senior
Music Directors: Amy Dalziel
Sophia Werden Abrams
Guest Musician: Spencer Hartman, flute

Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.
Please turn off your cell phone during the Service.

Musical Prelude: *Were You There?*

The Beginning: Jesus prays in the Garden

Hymn: *Go to Dark Gethsemane* 133

A Call to Walk (responsive):

One: It is hard to walk with Jesus today.

All: It is frightening to see our Friend and Teacher arrested.

One: It is confusing to see Jesus bound and beaten.

All: It is overwhelming to see the hatred and anger that people have for this Man we love and trust.

One: It is time for us to trust that God is at work within this devastating situation.

All: Jesus, we are walking with You today.

Jesus is in Our Midst: Lighting of the Christ candle

Prayer (together): We walk toward the cross today, not knowing, O God, why we are here, not even wanting to be here. Yet we move, step by step, toward the cross trusting in Your love that is greater than anything we can imagine, trusting that You are working in Jesus' life even as we watch His life end, trusting that life is not ended by death, trusting that in the sorrow and tragedies of our lives, You are walking with us and working within us. We walk with Jesus toward the cross today, knowing that You, O God, are walking with us. Amen.

Hymn: *In the Quiet Curve of Evening* 278

The First Step: Jesus is arrested

Solo: *Hello* Hannah Sheppard

The Second Step: Peter denies knowing Jesus

Hymn: *My Song Is Love Unknown* 143

The Third Step: Jesus before Pilate

Hymn: *O God, Why Are You Silent?* MV73 see reverse

The Fourth Step: Jesus on the Cross

Anthem: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Choir

The Fifth Step: Jesus dies

The Christ candle is extinguished.

A Time of Silence

Hymn: *Were You There?* 144

Prayers of the People

The Sixth Step: The Burial

Postlude: *Were You There?*

We leave the Sanctuary in silence, contemplation and peace.
Your offering will be received at the door.



O God, why are you silent?

More Voices 73

O God, why are You silent? I cannot hear Your voice.
The proud and strong and violent all claim You and rejoice.
You promised You would hold me with tenderness and care.
Draw near, O Love, enfold me, and ease the pain I bear.

Now lost within my grieving, I fall and lose my way,
My fragile, faint believing so swiftly swept away.
O God of pain and sorrow, my compass and my guide,
I cannot face the morrow without You by my side.

My hope lies bruised and battered, my wounded heart is torn;
My spirit spent and shattered by life's relentless storm.
Will You not bend to hear me, my cries from deep within?
Have You no word to cheer me when night is closing in?

Through endless nights of weeping, through weary days of grief,
My heart is in Your keeping, my comfort, my relief.
Come, share my tears and sadness, come, suffer in my pain;
O bring me home to gladness, restore my hope again.

May pain draw forth compassion, let wisdom rise from loss.
O take my heart and fashion the image of Your cross.
Then may I know Your healing through healing that I share,
Your grace and love revealing Your tenderness and care.

Easter Services, Sunday, March 27, 2016:

8:30am Communion

11:00am Easter Celebration

Please join us on Easter morning for our Easter Egg Breakfast at 9:30.

Cost is a donation to the GO Project youth program