



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

MEDITATIONS ON THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

April 7, 2023

12:00 noon

The Federated Church of Hyannis
320 Main Street
Hyannis, Massachusetts

PRELUDE: “*Near to the Heart of God*”, Cleland McAfee.....Roy Campbell

INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE

The service this afternoon is known as the “Seven Last Words of Christ.” The tradition began in Peru in the 17th century by a Jesuit priest. According to tradition, he developed a service of meditation for Good Friday based on the last words of Jesus. Soon, the tradition spread around the world and the last words of Jesus, recorded in the gospels, became part of the Church’s Lenten practice. The service includes elements of readings, responses, silent reflections and prayer, designed to help us contemplate more deeply on the passion and death of Jesus.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, you who were led forth into the pain of the cross for the salvation of the world: Help us to enter into your passion and death, forgive us all our sin, and bring us to eternal salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #328 *The Old Rugged Cross (v 1)*

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.
So I'll cherish the cross, the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the cross, the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.*

THE FIRST WORD: “Father forgive them for they know not what they do”

(Luke 23:34).

Prayer

Leader: Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #170 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (v 1)*

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.*

THE SECOND WORD: “Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise”

(Luke 23:43)

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

THE THIRD WORD: “Woman behold your Son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold your mother!” (John 19:26–27).

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #184 *Were You There (v 1)*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

THE FOURTH WORD: “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matt. 27:46)

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #183 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (v 1)*

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,

Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thy only crown,

How art Thou pale with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!

How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!

THE FIFTH WORD: “I thirst” (John 19:28).

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us we pray. Amen.

Hymn #184 *Were You There (v 2)*

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

THE SIXTH WORD: “It is finished” (John 19:30).

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #334 *Amazing Grace* (v 1)

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.*

THE SEVENTH WORD: “Father into thy hands I commit my spirit!” (Luke 23:46).

Prayer

Leader: O Savior of the world, who by your cross and precious blood has redeemed us,

People: Save us and help us, we pray. Amen.

Hymn #325 *Just as I Am, without One Plea* (v 1)

*Just as I am, without one plea but that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

THE CLOSING PRAYER (all)

O most blessed Jesus, Son of the living God: See us poor sinners through your passion and death, forgive us our sins which we have committed against you and our neighbor. Give us eternal life and everlasting joy through the blood of your cross. We give ourselves to you in faith and submission. Keep us always as your own and grant us eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(The people leave in silence.)

Our service continues Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service at St Andrews By-The-Sea, Hyannisport at 5:45am

10:00 am here in the sanctuary.

You are welcome to join us.