

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

March 29, 2024, 10:30am,
Good Friday Service

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME

*OPENING HYMN: VU#147 “What Wondrous Love is This”

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(The Christ candle is lit.) We light this candle today as a symbol of the love and grace that saturated the life of our friend and guide, Jesus Christ.

It shines in this place. It shines in and through us. It shows us the way on this difficult day.

Extinguish the candle at the end of the service. The Light shows us the way, but we have come to the end of a road.

It shines in and through us, but our fear diminishes its flame. It shines in this place, when we let it.

Today, as a symbol of the love and grace the world sought to snuff out, we extinguish this candle.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today is a day to remember shadowed times and places.

Sadness and grief surface when we enter this gloomy day.

Yet, we know that death does not have the last word.

It is Good Friday and, in the mystery of God’s love, a day of hope.

GATHERING PRAYER

Anointed One, so grateful are we for your willingness to experience such pain and suffering for our sakes.

Humbled are we by the depth of your sacrifice. Incredibly blessed is all of creation to be so loved.

It is our prayer that no more people should suffer as you suffered,

that no more people should be unjustly tried as you were tried, tortured as you were tortured, killed as you were killed.

May those who thirst not receive bitter offerings

but be truly quenched with water and the Word.

May those who are alone and afraid

be embraced by new families.

We wait for your embrace in our silent prayer...*(a time of silence)*

Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 53:3-6

This is the Word of God for the people of God Thanks be to God!

SACRED MUSIC: “Ave Verum” *(Choir)*

REFLECTION: **The Passion Story and Prayers for Good Friday**

VU# 144 v1, **The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus (John 18:1–11)**

VU# 144 v2, **Peter Denies Jesus (John 18:15–18)**

VU# 144 v3, **Jesus Sentenced to Death (John 18:38—19:16)**

Continued on Pg. 2

REFLECTION: *cont'd...*

VU #144 v4, **The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:16–30)**

VU #144 v5, **The Burial of Jesus (John 19:38–42)**

***HYMN:** VU #148 “Jesus Remember Me” (x2)

*We remember (a moment of silence) his ministry and impact on us
Blessed are You, the Lord our God, King of the universe, the true Judge.*

* **CLOSING HYMN** VU# 481 “Sent for by God’s Blessing”

***COMMISSIONING AND VESPER**

Jesus walked the chosen path, facing the court of humankind, a court of self-interest, selfishness, and proclaimed entitlement.

His supporters abandoned him, leaving him to face his fate.

He was alone, almost, with his mother, Mary, her sister, and one disciple left.

His mother watched in pain to see her son bow his head and give up his spirit.

On this Good Friday, we too watch in pain, knowing what humankind is capable of.

We pray for Jesus’ spirit to live on in us. We pray for Jesus’ life to fill our lives with hope, even as he hangs on the cross.

We pray for Jesus’ love to propel us forward to our chosen path, the path of Jesus. **Amen.**

*Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of ev’ry day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see;
God will be there, watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen*

* **ORGAN POSTLUDE**

<i>Thank you to Nancy Utting for being the greeter, to Larry McRae for being the Lay Reader, to Lisa and the choir for their musical contribution and to Bill Utting for livestreaming the service today.</i>

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 2 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

what won - drous love is this, O my soul
 what won - drous love is this, O my soul
 to God and to the Lamb I will sing,
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,

What won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 What won - drous love is this, that caused the Lord of
 to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul,
 life to lay a - side his crown for my soul,
 Am, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing,
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on,

Words: American folk hymn ca. 1811, French trans. Claude Rozier 1972

Music: American folk hymn 1840, harm. Paul J. Christiansen 1955

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WONDROUS LOVE

12 9 12 9

for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul.
for my soul, to lay a-side his crown for my soul.
I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme I will sing.
I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Were You There

144

Eb
Cm
Ab
Bb
Eb
(Ab)
Eb

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
 4 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Bb
Cm
Eb
Bb
Eb
Ab

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? Oh!
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Bb
Eb
Ab
Eb
G
Cm
Ab
Abm
Eb
Ab
Bb

Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Ab
Eb
Bb
Eb
(Ab)
Eb

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Words: African-American spiritual

Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Melva Wilson Costen 1987

Arrangement copyright © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen.

WERE YOU THERE

Irregular

Jesus, Remember Me

148

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Words: Luke 23:42

Director: Jacques Bertier 1978

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REMEMBER ME

Irregular

481

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Unison (D) G D G Em Am

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con -
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er

D G C Dsus4 D7 G

fess - ing, the peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave.
 liv - ing, the tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face.

(D) G D G Em Am

The sup - per is end - ed, O now be ex -
 Our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er

D G C Dsus4 D7 G

tend - ed the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
 car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of each tribe and race.

Words: Omer Westendorf 1964, alt.

Music: Welsh folk tune, harm. Leland Bernhard Sateren 1972

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THE ASH GROVE

6 6 11 6 6 11 D

Alt. setting: 242

The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

God's grace did in - vite us, God's love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to work for the king - dom and an - swer its call.
give hon - our to Christ and the name that we bear.