

ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH

April 15, 2022

Good Friday



Title: It Is Finished
Artist: Patricia Brintle
Year: 2009

***Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an
Affirming and Inclusive community***

Welcome to St. David's United Church

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Presiding: Amy Haynes

We gather in faith as a Christ-infused church

(Welcome to worship today. Whether you are worshipping with us today for the first time or you have been here for longer than you can remember, you are welcome to be here and to participate however you feel comfortable. Regardless of your age, stage, gender, sexual identity, or how great or small you feel your faith is we each bring something of ourselves to this sacred space. God welcomes each of us to worship.)

SEED OF MEDITATION

"In the universe, there are things that are known, and things that are unknown, and in between them, there are doors."

— William Blake

PRELUDE

Improvisation

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today is one of the grey areas of the Christian year:
a day when the lights are dimmed
and the sky feels overcast even if it isn't:
a day when theologians and poets
feel as if a heavy veil is drawn over heart and mind.
An inexplicably sad day.

**We tend to resist the grey areas,
prefer to see everything in black and white,
look for cloudless, sunny skies,
try not to read between the lines;
throw in a bright colour or two
to try and enliven the scene.**

In the grey light of early morning -
after a night in the ecclesiastical high court,
and denial by one of his own circle -
Jesus found himself at the gates
of the reluctant Pilate, who promptly
tried to hand him back to the Temple authorities.

**And though the sun rose that morning,
the whole world turned grey for One
who found himself without friend or helper,
faced with drinking a cup he'd prayed
would be turned away from him,
knowing that life was about to be drained out of him.**

We are invited to accompany Jesus through this grey day:
to be witnesses to his suffering,
to keep silence before his cry of dereliction.
In our imaginations, let us trudge through Jerusalem,
until we come to the place of the Cross:
and then, let us not turn our faces away.

**In this grey day lie all the sorrows and failings
of a humanity that strives for high success,
yet comes up against human limitations,
and falls to the ground in despair.
A humanity whose peace plans
give way to guns, and whose political promises
become papers in filing cabinets.**

On grey days it is hard to see clearly,
difficult to understand things that aren't clear.
Yet all we are asked to do today is to be present
to the sacred story as it is retold, and awake
to the inexplicable, mysterious, wondrous
transformation that was, and still is taking place.

**We come and hear the tale,
We come and share the tragedy,
We come and embrace the grey.**

Let us be present and awake in our worship. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

God of Light, God of Shadow, in our time together today,
keep us aware of your presence in the darkness,
help us to see meaning in this terrible story,
and keep the fire of hope alive in our hearts.

This we pray in the name of the man from Nazareth,
the one who lived with a great Passion for your Way,
the one whose death is nigh,
the one who taught his friends to pray saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
Now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 22

HYMN

Were You There

VU #144

- 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?
- 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?

- 3 Told them all a lie,
 and I told it three times over.
Bitter was the night
 before the break of day.
- 4 What did Judas do?
 Sold him for a bag of silver.
Bitter was the night
 before the break of day.
- 5 What did Judas do?
 Hanged himself upon an alder.
Bitter was the night
 before the break of day.
- 6 Bitter was the night,
 thought there'd never be a morning.
Bitter was the night
 before the break of day.
- 7 Bitter was the night,
 thought the cock would crow for ever.
Bitter was the night
 before the break of day.

SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

**THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY
WORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

Scripture Readers....Mike Trew, Dianne Trew, Frans Heynen
Music.....Sanctuary Choir
Accompanist.....Garrett Krause
PSALT & Tech Team
Sacred Service Team