

Opequon Presbyterian Church
Winchester, VA

Good Friday Tenebrae:
A Service of Gathering Darkness

April 18, 2025
7:00 PM



PRELUDE..... *Looking Toward the Cross*
A Medley Arranged by: Lani Smith

GREETING

OPENING SCRIPTURES..... Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Luke 22:1-6

CHORAL GATHERING SONG..... *Meditation for Good Friday*
Arranged by: Michael Bedford
Sanctuary Choir

GATHERING WORDS

From the busy-ness of our lives, we have come here on a day that is different.

Amid the world which holds the promise of spring and new life, we have come to share a story of betrayal and execution.

Come and hear the story, come and share the tragedy, come and embrace the darkness.

†HYMN No. 216 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death. With the raw honesty of Jesus, let us cry out in confession.

CONFESSION: SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

The cross that held the Savior of the world.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The cross that held the Savior of the world.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

The cross that held the Savior of the world.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal one, have mercy on us.

(The reproaches continue...)

Pastors: "...and you have made a cross for your Savior,"

Congregational Response: **"Lord, have mercy."**

ANTHEM..... *Father, Forgive Us*
By: Pamela Martin & Craig Courtney
Sanctuary Choir

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Prayer on the Mount of Olives – Luke 22:39-44

Hymn No. 220 (v. 1, 2) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

Betrayal, Arrest, and Denial – Luke 22:47-62

Hymn No. 215 (v. 1, 2) – *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Jesus Before the Council, Pilate, and Herod – Luke 22:66-23:12

Hymn No. 212 (v. 1, 2) *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

A Sentence of Death – Luke 23:13-25

Hymn No. 221 (v. 1, 2) *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

The Crucifixion of Jesus – Luke 23:32-43

Hymn No. 219 (v. 1, 2) *They Crucified My Lord*

Meditation: "Crucify! Crucify Him!"

Pastor David Witt

The Death and Burial of Jesus – Luke 23:44-56

Anthem: *Within the Shadow of the Cross*

By: Don Besig & Nancy Price

Sanctuary Choir

DEPARTING WORDS

†RECESSIONAL.....*Interlude in D Minor*
By: Benton Price

(During the interlude, you are invited to quietly recess outside to the lawn, following the cross bearers and the choir. We will conclude worship outside with the closing hymn. The service will continue on Easter morning.)

†HYMN.....*Were You There?*

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?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

†TOLLING OF THE BELL

(ALL DEPART IN SILENCE)

WELCOME to this time set apart for worship on this Good Friday, as we remember the death of Christ. May our hearts be blessed and inspired by the depth of God's passionate love, for us and for the world, as those who have decided to follow Jesus to the cross.

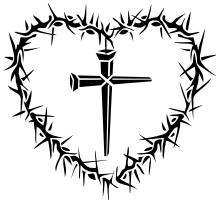
Please join us this Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION

- **Easter Sunrise Worship— 6:00 AM** (Pitcock Memorial Picnic Shelter)
Please bring flowers for the cross.
- **Easter Breakfast – 6:45 AM** (Fellowship Hall)
- **Family Easter Event – 9:45 AM** (Fellowship Hall)
- **Resurrection Day Worship – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM** (Sanctuary)
Communion, One Great Hour of Sharing

A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS TO:

The Sanctuary Choir	
Susan Homan	Music Director
William Heavner	Organist/Pianist
Cindy Millard, Marsha & Todd Bennett	Door Greeters
Kevin Reed, Steve Bock, Vern Gamble	Ushers & Cross Bearers
Laurie Carver, Alycia Campbell	Nursery Caregivers
David Witt	Pastor
Julia Burkley	Associate Pastor
Tracie Martin	Parish Associate
Susan Ritter, Rebekah Witt	Livestream



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