

NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY

A Service of Reflection on the Passion of Jesus—Reading, Music, Prayer

7:00 pm, April 2, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Adagio in G minor

Tomaso Albinoni
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. David Renwick

HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Ratisbon

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story gather round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
3. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION *in unison*

Dr. Renwick

Lord Jesus, on this holy day of your passion, you stretched out your arms upon the hard wood of the cross that we might be brought within their saving embrace. Draw us to you with bands of love that we may be found in you. Bind us to you as faithful servants that we may learn to take up our cross daily and follow you, unto the joy of eternity.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

The Passion Story According to Matthew
Matthew 26:36-27:31

NPC Pastors

HYMN

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

St. Christopher

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.
2. Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of one who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love, and my unworthiness.

I Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

PRAYER *in unison*

Dr. Michael Denham

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and ready to give more than we deserve or desire. Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, which we humbly seek through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, your Son our Savior.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:26-34

26 As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. 27 A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. 28 But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. 29 For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' 30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' 31 For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" 32 Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

CHORAL MEDITATION

Father. Forgive Them

Pepper Choplin

Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.

II Today you shall be with me in Paradise.

PRAYER *in unison*

Rev. Donna Marsh

Merciful God, you gave your Son to suffer the shame of the cross. Save us from hardness of heart that, seeing the One who died for us, we may repent, confess our sins, and receive your overflowing love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:35-43

35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" 38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." 39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

HYMN *choir then all*

Jesus, Remember Me

Jacques Berthier

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

III *Woman, behold your son.*

PRAYER *in unison*

Dr. Quinn Fox

Almighty God, look with mercy on your whole family, for whom our Lord Jesus was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; but who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

SCRIPTURE

John 19:25-27

25b Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

HYMN

Were You There?

Were You There

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord,
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O 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?
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble!
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

IV *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

PRAYER *in unison*

Rev. Katie Francis

Forbid, O God, that we should forget the pains and mortal anguish that our Lord Jesus endured for our salvation. Grant us a true vision of all that he suffered: in his betrayal, his lonely agony, his false trial, his mocking and scourging, and his torturous death. As he gave utterly for us, help us give ourselves entirely to you.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 15:33-35

33 When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 34 At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 35 When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

Herzliebster Jesu

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
That mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!
2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you?
It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you.
‘Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you.

V *I thirst.***PRAYER** *in unison*

Dr. Quinn Fox

Almighty God, your most dear Son went not up to joy before he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified. Mercifully grant, as we walk the way of the cross, that we may find in it alone the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE

John 19:28-29

28 After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." 29 A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

SOLO

He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word

Moses Hogan

Wasn't it a pity and a shame? And he never said a mumbalin' word. Not a word. They pierced him in the Side, and he never said a mumbalin' word. Not a word. His blood came trickling down, and he never said a mumbalin' word. Not a word. *Spiritual*

Ethan Greene, bass-baritone and Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

VI *It is finished.***PRAYER** *in unison*

Rev. Donna Marsh

Eternal God, whose word silences the shouts of the mighty, quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may receive grace to show Christ's love in lives given to your service.

SCRIPTURE

John 19:30a

30 When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished."

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hamburg

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.
2. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and blood flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
3. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

VII *Into your hands I commit my spirit.***PRAYER** *in unison*

Rev. Katie Francis

God of all, you have given your only begotten Son to take the form of a servant, and to be obedient even to death on a cross. Give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus that, sharing his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:44-49

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon,
45 while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. 47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." 48 And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. 49 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

HYMN*Passion Chorale*

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain:
Mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;
look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.

SCRIPTURE *congregation in unison*

Isaiah 53:4-6

Dr. Renwick

He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray. We have all turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all... They made his grave with the wicked, and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and no deceit was found in his mouth.

*Darkness descends on the Sanctuary***ORGAN MEDITATION**

Adagio

Samuel Barber
Mr. Fickley**BENEDICTION AND BELL TOLL**

You are invited to celebrate Easter with us!

He is not here; for he is risen, as he said. Matthew 28:6

This Sunday, April 4, come and discover that this is the best news of all! This season, we have journeyed together through Jesus' sacrifice for our salvation and on Sunday we will rejoice in his resurrection and victory over the darkness.

- **8:30 am:** Traditional Service online
- **9:30 am :** In-Person Outdoor Service in the NPC parking lot [more info](#)
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Service online