

WESTMINSTER

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Good Friday Service of Worship

The cross was not a tragic failure; it was a triumphant rescue.

- Vaughan Roberts

March 25th, 2016

Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church. We are thankful that you have joined us today as we offer worship to God through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. If you have any questions about our church, or about the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the pastor, elders or deacons would be happy to help you find answers.

Our Good Friday service is an annual service of that focuses specifically on the death of Jesus Christ, and a lament for our sin that made His death necessary. It is accompanied by a more somber tone, the counterpoint to the joy of Christ's resurrection, which we celebrate on Easter. Of course, we celebrate the Lord's death and resurrection every Sunday, but we take these particular days for a more focused theme in worship.

The Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of communion is a rite of fellowship between Christ and His people. We invite all who have been initiated into the family of God by baptism, and admitted to table fellowship by the leadership of this or some other church, to join in the communion service by faith. If you are unbaptized, or not a church member, please speak with the pastor or elders before the service if you would like to come to join in the Holy Supper.

Liturgical response

Please note that when the congregation is to read, the type will be **bolded and indented**:

The Lord be with you! [*Leader*]

And also with you! [*Congregation*]

Children

You will notice many children in our service today. Jesus welcomed little children to Himself, and so we welcome them in our worship service! We believe that children naturally love those whom their parents love, and so the best way to help children grow in their love for the Lord Jesus is to have families worship together.

We understand that this means baby noises and wiggly children, and we're fine with that. If your child is fussy or needs a little time to quiet down, we have a mother's nursery in the back room. If your children have never been in worship before, don't worry at all. We realize this is unusual for many people, and we would be happy to offer you help, tips and encouragement.

PRELUDE

Please be seated, silence electronic devices, and prepare your hearts for worship

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lamentations 3:40-41

Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord!

Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven.

*HYMN

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted, N^o. 257

*OLD TESTAMENT (RESPONSIVE) READING

Isaiah 53:1-12

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant,

and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,

and no beauty that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men;

a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;

and as one from whom men hide their faces

he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs

and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,

smitten by God, and afflicted.

* *Please stand as you are able*

But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

PRAYER

NEW TESTAMENT READING

ROMANS 5:6-11

*HYMN

Man of Sorrows! What a Name, N^o. 246

THE PASSION NARRATIVE

**Peter's Confidence, Mark 14:30-31*

And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹ But he said emphatically,

"If I must die with you, I will not deny you."

And they all said the same.

SILENT MEDITATION AND PRAYER

Jesus' Betrayal, Mark 14:43-52

Jesus' Accusers, Mark 14:53-65

Jesus' Abandonment, Mark 14:66-72

PRAYER

**Jesus' Trial and Humiliation (responsive), Mark 15:1-20*

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. ² And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ³ And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶ Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷ And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸ And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹ And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰ For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹² And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³ And they cried out again,

"Crucify him."

¹⁴ And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more,

"Crucify him."

¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him.

¹⁸ And they began to salute him,

"Hail, King of the Jews!"

¹⁹ And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

*HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, N^o. 247

**Jesus' Crucifixion and Death*, Mark 15:21-39

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²² And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. ²⁵ And it was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶ And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."

And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying,

"Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, 30 save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying,

"He saved others; he cannot save himself. 32 Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe."

Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

*PSALM 22 *My God, My God, O Why Have You Forsaken Me?* N^o. 79

HOMILY

Rev. Jerid Krulish

*COMMUNION HYMN *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, N^o. 252

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

You are welcome to partake in the Lord's Supper if you are a baptized Christian who has been admitted to the Lord's Table. Our communion elements are wine and bread. If you are unable to take regular bread and wine, please signal one of the elders, and we can provide you with gluten-free bread; non-alcoholic grape juice is found in the innermost ring of the communion trays.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

