

MUSIC OF THE PASSION

Debbie Lindley

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross Doane
I Am Thine, O Lord Doane

SILENT MEDITATION

Our disappointments, our lonelinesses and our defeats do not separate us from him; they draw us more deeply into communion with him. And with the final unanswered cry, "Why, my God, why?" we join in his death cry and await with him the resurrection.

This is what faith really is: believing, not with the head or the lips or out of habit, but believing with one's whole life. It means seeking community with the human Christ in every situation in life, and in every situation experiencing his own history. Good Friday is the most comprehensive and most profound expression of Christ's fellowship with every human being.

- Jürgen Moltmann

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

In your mercy, God, hear our prayer.
O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love.

HYMN

#179 "Alone in Gethsemane"

PRAYERS OF MERCY

Rev. Tim Forbess

In your mercy, God, hear our prayer.
O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love.

Merciful God, we meet each other today at this cross as inhabitants of one world.

As those who inflict wounds on each other: **be merciful to us.**
As those who deny justice to others: **be merciful to us.**
As those who seize wealth: **be merciful to us.**
As those who put others on trial: **be merciful to us.**
As those afraid of this world's torment: **be merciful to us.**

Giver of life, we wait with you to bear hope to earth's darkest places.
Where justice is destroyed: **let righteousness rule.**
Where hope is crucified: **let faith persist.**
Where war is rampant: **let peace reign.**
Where truth is denied: **let the struggle continue.**
Where sorrow lingers: **let your light shine.**

God, reach into this silent darkness with your love; deepen the terror of this moment into new hope; relieve the hideous cries with your voice of peace that here we may know your salvation, your glory, your future in Jesus Christ, the crucified Lord.

In your mercy, God, hear our prayer.
O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Sharon Kohnle

"Were You There?" arr. Moses Hogan

RESPONSE

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

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O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love.

HYMN

#182 "Alas and Did My Savior Bleed"

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

The extinguishing of lights in memory of Christ's passion is called Tenebrae (shadows) and dates back to the fourth century. The gradual extinguishing of lights is symbolic of the flight of the disciples, the approach of the enemies and the suffering of Jesus. The total darkness recalls the days Christ was in the tomb. After the last candle has been extinguished, we will sit in darkness for a moment and then depart in silent reflection on the death of Christ.

Judas Betrays Jesus (John 18:1-11) – Tom Kohnle

The Arrest of Jesus (John 18:12-14) – Laura Rhodes

Peter Denies Jesus (John 18:15-18) – Nancy Campbell

Jesus Before the High Priest (John 18:19-24) – Brad Kallenberg

Peter Again Denies Jesus (John 18:25-27) – Diane Ashman

Jesus Brought Before Pilate (John 18:28-32) – Pat Rousseau

Pilate Questions Jesus (John 18:33-38a) – Derek Hatch

The Crowd Condemns Jesus (John 18:38b-19:7) – Sandy Thorn

Pilate Sentences Jesus (John 19:8-16a) – Dayne Craig

The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:16b-25a) – Laura Okumu

The Death of Jesus (John 19:25b-30) – Allyson Black

The Burial of Jesus (John 19:31-42) – Andy Black

THE DARKNESS

*The sky peels back to purple
and the thunder slaps the thighs of heaven,
and all the tears of those who grieve
fly up to clouds and are released
and drench the earth,
The ones who see and hear
know
that all is lost...
All night long
the angels weep.
- Ann Weems*

(Exit in silence.)

First Baptist Church and
First United Methodist Church

Good Friday
April 22, 2011
7:00pm

