

Good Friday, 2017

*Resources used:
Gathering Resource, Lent/Easter 2017
Women of the Bible Tell Their Stories by Mary E. Jensen*

Tracy - items needed for the service

*Tea Lights
Taper Candles
Lights down low*

*Head Scarves for women
Stool, Bench, and Chair
Silver Basin with Water*

Prelude: Kari Orosz: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" with "Beethoven's Symphony no. 7"-
arr. by Marilynn Ham

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Treaty 7 Land

Light Christ Candle: Jo-Anne Hyatt

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Today is a day of shadows and gloom.

Today is a day of destruction and loss.

Today is a day when the church faces the power of death.

Today is a day of commitment lived and of faith fulfilled.

Today is a day of judgment levied and of strength revealed.

Today is a day when we prepare for the promise of new life.

Come, let us gather in the presence of God.

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Jesus cried "My God, why have you forsaken me?"

Comforter God, I have a need for your comforting presence. In my most troubled hours, you are always present. May you continue to comfort me, especially during trials and tribulations. Amen

Mary of Nazareth (Joseph's Wife) *Jillian Sanderson*

Hymn There Was a Child in Galilee (vv1,2) MV134

Leah of Bethlehem (The Innkeeper's Wife) *Sherrill Knight*

Hymn Go, Tell It on the Mountain (R,v3,R) VU43

Rachel of Jericho (Zacchaeus' Wife) *Cathy Rivard*

Hymn We Are Pilgrims (vv1,4,6) VU595

Claudia of Caesarea (Pontius Pilate's Wife) *Elaine Gray*

Ministry of Music - Adult Choir: "My Lord, What a Mornin'" - by Roger Emerson

Mara of Bethsaida (Peter's Wife) *Carrie-Faye Wong*

Hymn Bitter Was the Night (vv1-3,7)

VU132

Mary, Mother of Jesus

Amanda Sherwin

Hymn Were You There (all)

VU 144

Prayer of Confession, the Lord's Prayer, and Assurance of Pardon (*Leader*)

Holy God,

You call us to walk the way of the cross, but we choose the way that's easy, or the one that promises us the best return. Forgive us....

Open us to the faithful way,
the way of radical trust,
the way of true joy.

In this time of silence, give us what we need to take these final steps of the Lenten journey.

Silence

We know you hear all the prayers in our hearts and we continue praying by singing together the Lord's Prayer.....

On the cross, Jesus prayed,
"Forgive them, for they know not what they do."
That prayer is for us as well.
We are forgiven, we are restored.
Thanks be to God. Amen

Commissioning and Blessing (*Responsive*)

This is a day of shadows.

This is the day called good, but it is hard to see it as good.

This is a day when the presence of God can be seen even within moments of despair.

And so we say with confidence:

This is Good Friday.

This day marks not just the end of life, but the beginning of new hope.

Thanks be to God.

Let us leave this place in hope, knowing God is with us; we are not alone.

(Leader)

Go now remembering the man of sorrows.

Go now seeing the suffering world.

Go now loving all of God's creation.

Go now in peace.

(invitation to all to light a candle before leaving – leave in silence knowing that the sorrow we're feeling is necessary. We know how the story ends – with the joy of Easter Sunday, but for now, we can embrace the sorrow and sit in vigil until then)