

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA



April 15, 2022 +++ Good Friday +++ 7:30 PM

**Bolded text** - said in unison by all.  
*\*If able, please stand where indicated.*

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal

**Prelude**

*Alexa Majana*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: He was despised and rejected by others, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

**All: But it was his punishment that made us whole, his bruises that healed us. And we give thanks.**

Leader: He was oppressed and he was afflicted. Yet, he did not open his mouth.

**All: But it was through him that God's will was made to prosper. It was because of his anguish that we can see light – and we give thanks.**

Leader: He is our high priest, touched by our infirmities, suffering as we have suffered.

**All: He is our living example that God's ways are not our ways. He is the stone that the builders rejected that became the head cornerstone. He is the last that**

became first. Through him we are challenged to live in a new way, to love in a new way, to lead in a new way – and for this, we give thanks.

## Opening Hymn

*Were You There* (vs.1-4)

UMH 288

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?(were you there)  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there)  
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (were you there)
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (were you there)  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (were you there)  
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (were you there)
3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (were you there)  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (were you there)  
Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (were you there)
4. Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (were you there)  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine? ((were you there)  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (were you there)

## Opening Prayer

Pastor: Lord, as we again snuff the candles one by one and see your cross rise. We recall those who did their jobs on that Friday long ago. We remember Pilate who with clever words kept a false and fragile peace. We remember a soldier who, with rope in one hand and a nail in the other, followed his orders and affixed you to the tree. But we also remember Peter, we remember ourselves, and the job we failed to do. We recall our denial made amidst cockcrows and salty tears of timidity and remorse. Lord, we know again this night that we did not stand with you. Yet you did your job, which also was your passion and your name—Jesus, “God saves.” You bore the nails and the insults. You spoke the truth and bled out. You broke the curtain open and faced the worst of the powers’ might.

**All: So, Lord, here we are again on a darkening Friday of this year’s Holy Week, with another chance to do our job, and stand by you. Lord, by your Spirit, make us able to do so. Amen.**

## Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Christ Jesus was despised and rejected.

**All: We thought nothing of him.**

Pastor: He was oppressed and afflicted.

**All: We hid our faces from him.**

Pastor: He bore our sickness and sin.

**All: We believed God was punishing him.**

Pastor: We, like sheep, have gone astray.

**All: Yet he, like a lamb, was led to the slaughter.**

Pastor: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

**All: Lamb of God, grant us peace. Amen.**

## The Passion Story of the Tenebrae (John 18:1-19:42)

### i. Story #1

ChangYong Shin

Jesus... went forth with his disciples across the Kidron valley. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas, procuring a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to befall him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." ... Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave and cut off his right ear. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?"

### *Responsive Hymn*

### *"What Wondrous Love Is This (v.1)"*

UMH 292

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

### ii. Story #2

ChangYong Shin

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jewish people come together; I have said nothing secretly. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me, what I said to them; they know what I said." When he had said this, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying,

"Is that how you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

*Worship Dance*

*The Old Rugged Cross*

*Nicole Peaks*

iii. **Story #3**

**Sarah Nwafor**

The woman who guarded the gate said to Peter, "Are not you also one of this man's disciples?" He said, "I am not." Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves; Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said to him, "Are not you also one of his disciples?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the servants of the high priest, a kinsman of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" Peter again denied it; and at once the cock crowed.

*Responsive Hymn*

*"Ah, Holy Jesus (v. 2)"*

**UMH 289**

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?

Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!

'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

iv. **Story #4**

**Sarah Nwafor**

Pilate entered the headquarters again and called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "My kingship is not of this world; if my kingship were of this world, my servants would fight, that I might not be handed over to the religious authorities; but my kingship is not from the world." Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice."

*Special Music(Piano)*

*Alexa Majana*

v. **Story #5**

**Destiny Nwafor**

So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him." The religious authorities answered him, "We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God."

1. O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down,  
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown:  
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was Thine!  
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call Thee mine.

**vi. Story #6****Destiny Nwafor**

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

**Special Music (Singing)****"Were You There"****Amy Anderson****vii. Story #7****ChangYong Shin**

After this Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the religious authorities, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him leave. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who had at first come to him by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds' weight. They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

*(The Christ candle extinguished)*

**Dismissal**