

# *The Inter-Faith Chapel*

*“A House of Prayer for All People”*



*Good Friday Service*

*March 29, 2024*

❖ *As you enter to worship, please remember to silence your cell phones.* ❖

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE**

*Our service today, known as a “Service of Nails,” involves a series of readings, responses, and silent reflections, designed to help us enter more deeply into the meaning of Good Friday. Everyone is requested to take a bag of nails from the basket in the Narthex, and to keep it with you for use during the service. Let us prepare in silence to worship our God.*

**PRELUDE**

*Meditation*

Larson

Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Dr. Woodie Rea  
Senior Minister**

*Leader: We gather to remember the One who was wounded for our transgressions,*

**ALL We worship the One who was crushed for our iniquities.**

*Leader: Upon Him was the punishment that made us whole,*

**ALL: And by his bruises we are healed.**

**Christ himself bore our sins and was nailed to the cross,  
that we might die to sin, and live to righteousness.**

**INVOCATION**

**Dr. Woodie Rea**

**† HYMN**

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

**† You may stand in body or in spirit.**  
*Music used by permission CCLI # 1683224*

# O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;  
2. What thou, O Christ, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:  
3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est Friend,

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?

how pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn!  
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;  
O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,

How does that vis - age lan - guish which once was bright as morn!  
look on me with thy fa - vor, and keep me in thy grace.  
O, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

## THE NAILS OF THE CROSS

**The Nail of Pride**

**Mark 15: 1-5**

**Dr. Ramonia Lee  
Minister of Congregational Life**

*Lord, we remember Pontius Pilate, and how a failed Roman administrator allowed the emotion of pride to control his actions and dictate his decisions. We know also, how much emphasis we place on ego and self-importance, and we confess the desire we have to want to exercise power over others. O Lord, we know our pride hurts others and hurts you.*

**(Meditation and silent prayer)**

*Leader: O God, help us consider our own pride and where it leads.*

**ALL: O God, do not let us deceive ourselves.  
Our pride hurts us and creates walls between us and others.  
O God, we know too, that our pride hurts you.**

**ANTHEM**

*I Walk Today Where Jesus Walked*  
Chancel Choir

Gaither/Nelson

**The Nail of Indecision**

**Matthew 27: 20-24**

**Dr. Woodie Rea**

*Lord, we see Pilate here morally weak and yielding to the pressure of the crowd, although he knew that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests handed Jesus over. Lord, how many times have we been a party to hurt or injustice because we failed to take a firmer stand? How often have we given in to the pressure of the group against our better judgement?*

**(Meditation and silent prayer)**

*Leader: O God, help us consider how we waver, how we seek to avoid taking responsibility, and how we blame others for our actions.*

**ALL: O God, do not let us deceive ourselves.  
Our indecision hurts us and creates walls between us and others.  
O God, we know too, that our indecision hurts you.**

**HYMN**

*The Old Rugged Cross*

# The Old Rugged Cross

Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull — John 19:17 NIV

1. On a hill far a-way stood an old rug-ged cross, The em-blem of  
2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross, so de-spised by the world, Has a won-drous at-  
3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di-vine, Such a won-der-ful  
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev-er be true, Its shame and re-

suf - f'ring and shame; And I love that old cross where the dear-est and best  
trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove,  
beau - ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf-fered and died,  
proach glad-ly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,

For a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. So I'll cher-ish the old rug - ged  
To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. cross, the  
Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

cross, Till my tro-phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the  
old rug-ged cross,

old rug - ged cross, And ex - change it some day for a crown.  
cross, the old rug-ged cross,

WORDS: George Bennard, 1873-1960  
MUSIC: George Bennard, 1873-1960

OLD RUGGED CROSS  
Irregular

**The Nail of Violence****Matthew 27: 27-31, 39-42****Dr. Ramonia Lee**

*Lord, we hate to look at the cruelty you endured, but on this day we force ourselves to remember the lashes they gave you in anger and the beating you received. We know the extent of violence that one human being can inflict upon another. O Lord, even as we shake our heads at this brutality, we today seem to have a thirst for violence, explosive feelings, and a passion for force. Cause us to see the violence of which we are capable.*

**(Meditation and silent prayer)**

*Leader: O God, help us consider how our violence toward others traumatizes them emotionally, and how, when we malign and slander others, we add to the injury that comes upon them.*

**ALL: O God, do not let us deceive ourselves.  
Our violence hurts us and creates walls between us and others.  
O God, we know too, that our violence hurts you.**

**HYMN***What Wondrous Love Is This***The Nail of Hatred****Luke 6: 22, 32-35****Dr. Woodie Rea**

*Lord, we look at the hatred in the world. We know that even the Good News has enemies and was hated by those who did not fully understand it. We know that we often hate other things and people that we do not understand.*

**(Meditation and silent prayer)**

*Leader: O God, help us consider how we show hate to others, how we fail to care for others and make distinctions among them.*

**ALL: O God, do not let us deceive ourselves.  
Our hatred hurts us and creates walls between us and others.  
O God, we know too, that our hatred hurts you.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE****Dr. Ramonia Lee****THE LORD'S PRAYER****UNISON**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

# What Wondrous Love Is This



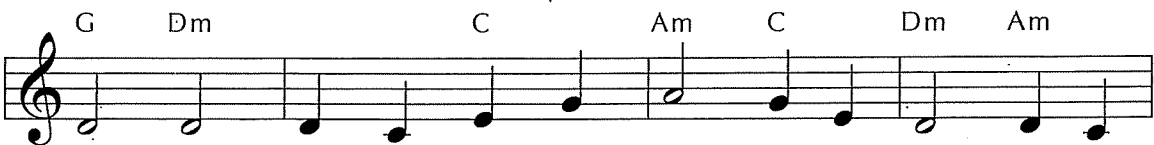
1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing  
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What  
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to  
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous  
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my  
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my  
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!  
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

## MEDITATION

## “The Four Nails”

Dr. Woodie Rea

### LITANY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

*Leader: Lord, when we feel sorry for ourselves  
and think we have sacrificed so much for others,*

**ALL: Remind us of your nails on the cross.**

*Leader: Lord, when our patience wears thin and we are ready to give up,*

**ALL: Remind us of your nails on the cross.**

*Leader: Lord, when we get angry and feel like fighting back against  
those who would be our enemies,*

**ALL: Remind us of your nails on the cross.**

*Leader: Lord, whenever we suffer in any way,*

**ALL: Remind us of your nails on the cross.**

*Leader: Lord, when we are afraid to stand up for what is true and honorable,*

**ALL: Remind us of your nails on the cross.**

**Help us to examine our those areas of our lives  
Where we may be responsible for your nails on the cross.  
Amen.**

### † HYMN

*Were You There*





# Were You There

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (were you  
 2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (were you  
 3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (were you  
 4. Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (were you  
 5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (were you

there) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (were you  
 there) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (were you  
 there) Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (were you  
 there) Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (were you  
 there) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (were you

*Refrain*

there) Oh! some-times it caus - es

me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (were you there)  
 there when they nailed him to the tree? (were you there)  
 there when they pierced him in the side? (were you there)  
 there when the sun re - fused to shine? (were you there)  
 there when they laid him in the tomb? (were you there)

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual  
 MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

WERE YOU THERE  
 Irr.

Adapt. and arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

## **DISMISSAL**

*Leader: We wait here now, by the cross, carrying our grief  
We feel heartbroken, distraught, and overwhelmed.  
Upon Jesus was nailed the grief of us all.  
It is finished.*

**PEOPLE: God of endings, God of darkness,  
God of the cross, God of dark days and great loss,  
Be with us now as we wait with Jesus.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Alas and Did My Savior Bleed*  
Dr. Holly Oberle, Director of Music

Wilson

*You are welcome to stay as long as you wish in prayer and meditation.*

*As you leave, place one of the your nails in the cross in the Narthex  
as a personal enactment of our role for the nails in the cross.*

*Take the second nail home with you  
as a visual reminder of our responsibility for the crucifixion.*

*Please maintain silence until outside the Chapel.*

*The cross does not have the last word.*

*Return with us on Sunday to celebrate and experience the joy of Easter!*

## A PARTING THOUGHT

The  
people  
stood  
yelling,  
**“Crucify!”**  
and it breaks  
our hearts every time.  
For, even today, a nail is driven every time someone  
is ignored, mistreated,  
oppressed.  
Nails  
are  
any  
words  
that  
pain  
God’s  
Beloved.