



**Knox United Church**

April 2, 2021

Good Friday

**Welcome to this Good Friday service.  
This morning, we will hear the story from  
Mark's gospel.**

**Swagatam, Tansi, Welcome:**

As we join together in worship we acknowledge that we live on Turtle Island, land that creator brought out of the waters so all could have life. Turtle island is the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

**Gathering Together in Song: VU 144 Were You There**

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (x2)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (x2)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3. Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?) (x2)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)

4. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (x2)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

5. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (x2)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

**Greeting and Introduction**

**Call to Worship:**

One: The love of Jesus refused to compromise with the powerful.

**All: Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One.**

One: The love of Jesus took the tough but faithful road.

**All: Love calls us here, the love of the crucified One.**

One: The love of Jesus struggled with the easy way out.

**All: Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One**

One: The love of Jesus endured the fear, the denial, the rejection of his friends.

**All: It is the love of Jesus that calls us here.**

## OPENING PRAYER

God of life and of death, you have called us to this day of crucifixion:

Jesus is betrayed, deserted and abandoned.

Judas leads him to the authorities.

His disciples cannot stay awake to keep watch.

Three times, Peter denies his relationship.

In these trying times,

may we continue to find ways to live "love of neighbour."

In the midst of isolation and distancing,

may we build social connection.

In the presence of fear and anxiety,

may we be steadfast people of faith. Amen

## Song: VU 614 In Suffering Love vs.1,2,3

1. In suffering love the thread of life is woven through our care,  
for God is with us, not alone our pain and toil we bear.

2. There is a rock, a place secure within the storm's cold blast,  
concealed within the suffering night God's covenant stands fast.

3. In love's deep womb our fears are held, there God's rich tears are sown and  
bring to birth, in hope newborn, the strength to journey on.

## OPENING THE STORY

### Song: VU #135 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand:  
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,  
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

2. Upon the cross of Jesus my eyes at times can see  
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me,  
and from my smitten heart, with tears, two wonders I confess,  
the wonder of his glorious love, and my unworthiness.

3. I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place,  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face,  
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

## **THE STORY**

### **Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus**

#### **Judas' Story**

#### **Response: MV#70 Kyrie Eleison**

Greek: Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

English: Lord, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

French: O Seigneur, prends pitie de nous. O Seigneur, prends pitie de nous.

O Seigneur, prends pitie de nous. O Seigneur, prends pitie de nous.

**Silence**

### **Jesus Before the Council**

#### **The High Priest's Story**

## **RESPONSE**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Silence**

### **Peter's Denial Foretold**

#### **Peter's Story**

## **RESPONSE**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Silence**

### **Jesus Before Pilate**

#### **Pilate's Story**

## **RESPONSE**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Silence**

### **Crown of Thorns**

#### **A Soldier's Story**

## RESPONSE

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Silence**

**Crucified**

**Simone of Cyrene's Story**

## RESPONSE

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Silence**

**Song : VU #149 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

1. When i survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain i count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that i should boast save in the death of Christ, my God :  
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

3. See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down !  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small :  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my sould, my life, my all.

**The Last**

## THE CHRIST CANDLE Extinguished

*At that moment the Temple curtain ripped right down the middle.*

*<sup>39</sup> Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he<sup>[b]</sup>breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"<sup>[k]</sup>*

*<sup>40-41</sup> There were women watching from a distance, among them Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of the younger James and Joses, and Salome. When Jesus was in Galilee, these women followed and served him, and had come up with him to Jerusalem.*

**Mary Magdalene's Story**

**Silence**

## **Song: MV #78 God Weeps**

God weeps at love withheld, at strength misused  
at children's innocence abused  
and till we change the way we love, God weeps

God bleeds at anger's fist, at trust betrayed  
At women battered and afraid  
And till we change the way we win, God bleeds

God cries at hungry mouths, at running sores,  
At creatures dying without cause  
And till we change the way we care, God cries.

God waits for stones to melt, for peace to seed  
for hearts to hold each other's need  
and till we understand the Christ, God waits.

## **PRAYER**

We come to the cross...  
politically, religiously.

**We pray for the broken.**

We come to the cross..  
put dreams or hopes to one side.

**We pray for the suffering.**

We come to the cross...  
relationships that are not loving  
**We pray for those abandoned.**

We come to the cross...  
that seeks nothing but God  
**And we wait...**



***Silence***

## **RESPONSE**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

## **FINAL WORDS**

*We leave with all the emotions the story of this day brings, yet with the assurance and knowledge that death is not the final word. Go in peace.*

***Leave in silence.***

***Please return to join in our Easter celebration Sunday morning at 10:30.***

\* David Sparks, found in "Draw the Circle Wide" A Good Friday Service *Gathering* Lent/Easter 2015 Year B p.69 Used with permission.

\*\*Barbara Brown Taylor, 2006

\*\* *Mead Baldwin, while at Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley P.C., Que.*