

The United Church of Canada
Bathurst Pastoral Charge
First United Church, Bathurst
www.firstunited-bathurst.ca

March 29, 2024

Good Friday

Minister Rev. Neal Palmer **Music Director** Martha Vickers
Office Adm. Margaret Daniels **Custodian** Lester Scott
Greeters Julie & Harvey Spence
Audio & Visual Technicians Lester Scott & Donald Eddy

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<u>Lectionary for today</u>	<u>Lectionary for Sunday</u>
Isaiah 52:13—53:12	Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 22	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Hebrews 10:16-25	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 18:1—19:42	John 20:1-18

*The asterisk * identifies those times in the service where you are invited to present yourselves, body, mind, and spirit, as is comfortable for you today...*

GATHERING

WELCOME & TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *(in unison)*

...As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original peoples, the Mi'kmaq. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and in friendship with its people.

LENTEN CANDLE-LIGHTING

The Candles are lit.

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP - "Gather Us In"

MV #7

Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in,
ground us, ground us, in you.

ENGAGING

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:1-12

Jesus in the Garden & Jesus Betrayed by Judas

Response

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:12-24

Jesus' First Trial before the High Priest

Response

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:25-28

The Denial of Jesus by Simon Peter

Response

Kyrie Eleison (Guarani) –

MV #68

Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.

O God have mercy,
O God have mercy,
O God, have mercy,
have mercy on us.

***Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son,
ky-ri-e e-le-i-son.***

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:33-38a

The Second Trial before Pilate

Response

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:38b-40

The Liberation of Barabbas

Response

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:8-17

The Journey to Golgotha

Response

GIFT OF MUSIC – "Were You There"

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:18-22

The Crucifixion of Jesus

Response

GIFT OF MUSIC – "Song of the Cross"

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:25-27

The Care of Mary to John

Response

***HYMN** – "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

VU #135

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.

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.

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.

Protestors remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:28-37

Death of Jesus

Response

Remove a candle from the sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:38-42

The Burial of Jesus

Response

***HYMN** – "O God, Why Are You Silent?"

MV #73

O God, why are you silent?
I can not hear your voice.
The proud and strong and violent
all claim you and rejoice.
You promised you would hold me
with tenderness and care.
Draw near, O Love, enfold me,
and ease the pain I bear.

Now lost within my grieving,
I fall and lose my way,
my fragile, faint believing
so swiftly swept away.
O God of pain and sorrow,
my compass and my guide,
I can not face the morrow
without you by my side.

My hope lies bruised and battered,
my wounded heart is torn;
my spirit spent and shattered
by life's relentless storm.
Will you not bend to hear me,
my cries from deep within?
Have you no word to cheer me
when night is closing in?

Through endless nights of weeping,
through weary days of grief,
my heart is in your keeping,
my comfort, my relief.

Come, share my tears and sadness,
come, suffer in my pain;
O bring me home to gladness,
restore my hope again.

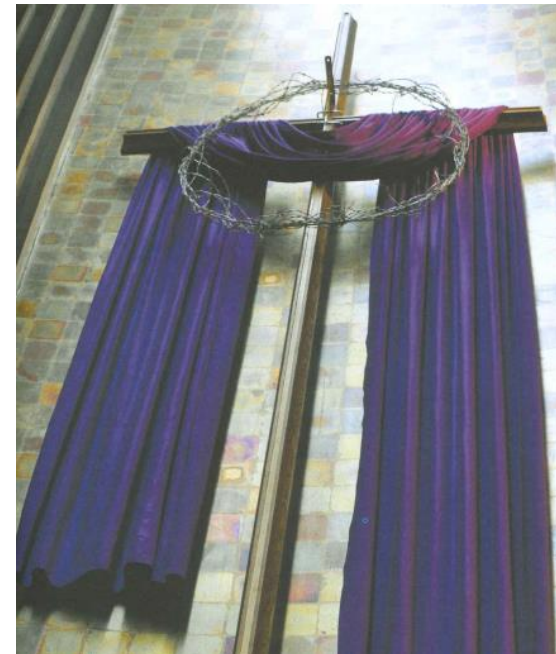
May pain draw forth compassion,
let wisdom rise from loss.
O take my heart and fashion
the image of your cross.
Then may I know your healing
through healing that I share,
your grace and love revealing
your tenderness and care.

Remove a candle from the sanctuary.

GOING OUT (as Spirit people)

***BLESSING**

People leave the sanctuary in silence when they are ready to do so.



SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:1-12

1 After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

2 Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples.

3 So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

4 Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, 'For whom are you looking?'

5 They answered, 'Jesus of Nazareth.' Jesus replied, 'I am he.' Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.

6 When Jesus said to them, 'I am he', they stepped back and fell to the ground.

7 Again he asked them, 'For whom are you looking?' And they said, 'Jesus of Nazareth.'

8 Jesus answered, 'I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.'

9 This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.'

10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus.

11 Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?'

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:12-24

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

13 First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Peter Denies Jesus

15 Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest,

16 but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in.

17 The woman said to Peter, 'You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?' He said, 'I am not.'

18 Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing round it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

The High Priest Questions Jesus

19 Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

20 Jesus answered, 'I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret.

21 Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.'

22 When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, 'Is that how you answer the high priest?'

23 Jesus answered, 'If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?'

24 Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:25-28

Peter Denies Jesus Again

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, 'You are not also one of his disciples, are you?' He denied it and said, 'I am not.'

26 One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, 'Did I not see you in the garden with him?'

27 Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Jesus before Pilate

28 Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:33-38a

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?'

34 Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?'

35 Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?'

36 Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'

37 Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

38 Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

Jesus Sentenced to Death

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no case against him.'

SCRIPTURE READING – John 18:38b-40

38 Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

Jesus Sentenced to Death

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no case against him.'

39 But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?'

40 They shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:8-17

8 Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever.

9 He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, 'Where are you from?' But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 Pilate therefore said to him, 'Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?'

11 Jesus answered him, 'You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.'

12 From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, 'If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.'

13 When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

14 Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!'

15 They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.'

16 Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

The Crucifixion of Jesus

So they took Jesus;

17 and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:18-22

18 There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

19 Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.'

20 Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

21 Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews."'

22 Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.'

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:25-27

25 And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'

27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:28-37

28 After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.'

29 A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

30 When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Jesus' Side Is Pierced

31 Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

32 Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him.

33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

34 Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

35 (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.)

36 These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'None of his bones shall be broken.'

37 And again another passage of scripture says, 'They will look on the one whom they have pierced.'

SCRIPTURE READING – John 19:38-42

The Burial of Jesus

38 After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.

39 Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.

40 They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

41 Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid.

42 And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.