

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

APRIL 10, 2020

GOOD FRIDAY

Hymn 228

Were You There

"Were You There"

Call to Worship

Fear and fascination drew observers to the first Holy Friday. These emotions have attracted people ever since.

We cannot flee from the pain and suffering which Jesus experienced on our behalf.

We wonder why one so faithful and loving had to face the agony of rejection and death.

Jesus was wounded for our transgressions and was bruised for our iniquities.

In this time of worship we join Christ at Calvary, aware of our involvement in the cruelty there.

Our faithfulness is tested at the cross and our lives are judged by our response.

Prayer of Invocation

Almighty God, look with mercy on your family: For whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, to suffer a death on the cross, and yet who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Good Friday is not a day of safe distances. The darkness descends. Taunts and jeers reach our ears when we dare to identify with the Light of the world. We who are called the body of Christ in today's world, have come to our time of testing. Join me in the prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession

Yes, dear God, it is true. We are not worthy of your love. We promise to be faithful but we fall away; we forsake you; we flee from you; we betray you; we deny you; we watch from afar; we don't tell anyone that your reign is at hand; we are afraid. Change us, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God's love was not destroyed at Golgotha, nor diminished by our unclear vision of the saving power of the cross. God reaches out to heal and revive us, and to reveal again the love that will not let us go. Amen.

Sermon Text

John 19:17-25a

Anthem

Theodore Dubois

"Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"
Sanctuary Choir

Christ, we do all adore Thee,
and we do praise Thee forever,
For on the holy cross hast Thou
the world from sin redeemed.

Christ, we do all adore Thee,
and we do praise Thee forever.
Christ, we do all adore Thee!

Homily

The Rev. David A. Slyter

Prayer

Closing

Hamburg

Arr. Lloyd Larson

"When I Survey the Wonderful Cross"
Sanctuary Handbells