

Good Friday

Worship in the Shadows

Service offered by the congregations of

Lakeview *and* Faith Presbyterian Churches

April 3, 2026 6:45pm

Lakeview Presbyterian Church, 5914 Canal Blvd, New Orleans



Why Have You Forsaken Me? by Lauren Wright-Pittman for *A Sanctified Art*, based on Jesus' passion in Matthew 27:27-50
Artist's statement:

"[I created this piece from] the perspective of God the Creator, looking at her son who was screaming out in agony. In order to find the expression on Christ's face, I referenced images of children crying; their expressions were raw, real, and unencumbered. This perspective shift reveals something profound to me about the heart of God, and I connect with it in a new way after becoming a mother. This image represents the deep lament of God. It holds the desperation of a parent and the betrayal of a loved one. These acts of abuse, cruelty, and indignity were fired at the Creator of the Universe by the very beings into whom God breathed life. Perhaps God is crying out to us, 'Why have you forsaken me?'" www.sanctifiedart.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Tom Brown, *Director of Music*

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus spent his life teaching the meaning of love. Through word and deed, Jesus showed us how to love God and to love one another.

People: **He fed the hungry. He healed the sick. He invited women and children and the tax collectors and sinners to fellowship at His table.**

Leader: He broke bread with the least and the lost. He shared the cup of redemption with them all. He called out hypocrites. He admonished the self-righteous.

People: **He taught what God commanded of us: Love God, love yourself, and love one another.**

ALL: **We gather in the name of Jesus to reflect on what it means to follow Him, even to the cross. Let us worship, let us watch. And let us give thanks for such great love. Amen.**

*HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This *stanza 1*

No. 215

**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 dreaded curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreaded curse for my soul!**

RECOUNTING THE EVENTS OF HOLY WEEK

Rev. Jean Marie Peacock

Scripture Reading

John 13:3-20

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Siimon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I,

*You are invited to stand.

Please join in saying/singing aloud the responses **printed in bold**.

Hymn numbers correspond to the pages in the red or purple *Glory to God* hymn book in the pew rack in front of you.

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your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

Sung Response

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love *stanza 1*

No. 203

**Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

**Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. (Refrain)**

Confession of Sin

Times of silent reflection, as prompted

Assurance of Pardon

Sung Response

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love *stanza 4*

No. 203

**Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others' feet;
this is the way we should live like you. Jesu, Jesu... (Refrain)**

Upper Room Litany

Leader: As the disciples shared the Passover meal with Jesus...

... While they were at table, Jesus said to his disciples: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

People: Who? Who will betray you? Surely not me. Tell us who, Jesus.

Leader: "The one who dips his hand into the dish with me."

People: But that's all of us. We've all shared this common meal.

Silent reflection

Prayer (unison)

Dear Lord, Thank you for giving us your presence and your life. Send forth your Holy Spirit now, that as we read the ancient story of your Passion, we may hear you speak to us on a deeply personal level. Help us to see ourselves in the story of your Passion, to repent of our betrayals, and to renew our commitment as your disciples. Be with us now, as we remember how you left the Upper Room with your disciples to spend the night in prayer on the Mount of Olives, as we pray the prayer that you taught us: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

The Passion and Death of Jesus, the Christ

FIRST READING

Luke 22:39-46

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

Sung Response

Stay With Me

No. 204

Musical score for "Stay With Me" in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The lyrics are: "Stay with me; re-main here with me; watch and pray.— Watch and pray."

SECOND READING

Luke 22:47-51

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

Prayer (unison)

Lord, he comes to hurt you, and you heal him. In the dreaded darkness of this time and place, there is your light of healing love. Thank you for the healing you bring. Touch us with your healing love. Amen.

Sung Response

Bless the Lord

No. 544

Musical score for "Bless the Lord" in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life."

THIRD READING

Luke 22:52-62

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!" Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance.

When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Time of silent reflection

FOURTH READING

Mark 14:55-65

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am, and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'" "

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

Prayer (unison)

Lord Jesus, we are stunned at Your passion and Your commitment to us. You did not run from the darkness. You did not hide from Your accusers. You stepped with determination into the darkness, willingly giving Yourself to be flogged, mocked, and crucified. We thank you, Gracious Lord, for what you endured to reconcile us with God.

Sung Response

My Soul Is At Rest

No. 843

The image shows musical notation for a sung response. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "My soul is at rest in God a-lone; my sal-va-tion comes from God." The music ends with a double bar line.

FIFTH READING

Mark 15:1-20

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him

again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Prayer (unison)

Lord, why do we make fun of people? Why do we laugh at them behind their backs and expose them to ridicule when they can't hit back? What is it that brings out the worst of us? Lord, we watch as you suffer abuse without a word of anger or hate. How do you do that? How do you accept it all and leave it for God to use?

Sung Response

Come and Fill Our Hearts

No. 466

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." and "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

SIXTH READING

Luke 23:26-34

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

Prayer (unison)

Lord, you teach us that forgiveness is essential and must be unlimited. Only by forgiveness can we live together in peace and in harmony with God. Forgive our sins, O Lord. Have mercy on us. Here, at the foot of the cross, let your forgiving word reach to the very heart of us. Amen.

Sung Response

God is Forgiveness

God is for - give - ness. Dare to for - give and God will be with you.

God is for - give - ness. Love and do not fear.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Times of silent reflection, as prompted

SEVENTH READING

Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Sung Response

Jesus, Remember Me

No. 227

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

EIGHTH READING

Luke 23:44-53

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

Prayer (unison)

Lord, when you were buried it seemed like the end of everything you promised and stood for. But it wasn't, it was only the beginning. As we travel from the crucifixion to the resurrection, be with us in a special way. Fill our hearts with gratitude for who you are and what you have done for us. Help us to be faithful disciples, living fully into the depth of your love and grace. Amen.

*PARTING HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *stanzas 1-3*

No. 223

**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.**

**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.**

**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?**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Response (solo) When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *stanza 4*

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;

Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

***You are invited to linger in silent reflection and prayer
or keep silent as you exit the sanctuary.***