



FIRST UNITED CHURCH
Swift Current, SK
Friday, April 14, 2017

Good Friday

Leading Worship: Annette Taylor
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Soloist – James McLaughlan



THE PASSION STORY

Joseph of Arimathea – Ron Toles
Sung Response: MV #64 verse 2

John 18:1-27

Mary, wife of Clopas – Melanie Davis
Sung Response: MV #64 verse 1

John 18:28 - 19:16a

Pontius Pilate – Mel Friesen
Sung Response: MV #64 verse 3

John 19:16b-30

Mary, mother of Jesus – Marie Andrews
Musical Offering: A Body, Broken on a Cross
- Words by Brian Wren &
Music by Ron Klusmeier

John 19:31-40

Nicodemus – Dan Olmsted
Sung Response: MV #64 verse 4

John 19:41-42

Mary Magdalene – Stacie Noble-Wiebe
Sung Response: MV #64 verse 5

Adapted from: *Seasons of the Spirit™* SeasonsFusion
Lent • Easter 2017, page 99-100.

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Confession

ONE: Would you have been among those who brought Jesus to the cross?

ALL: Like the disciples, we find a reason to avoid getting involved if our lifestyle is in danger.

ONE: Would you have been among those who brought Jesus to the cross?

PRELUDE

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER & THE JESUS PRAYER

With heavy hearts and a heavy world,
we meet you this day, O Christ.
In your clenched hands,
stretched and nailed,
you gather us.

In holy sorrow,
we find silence our only friend.
With strength only you can give, even now,
and with a courage only you can know,
may we find ourselves beside you, O God.

And as life teeters and eternity weeps,
may we see through love's pain,
into love's promise and love's destiny.
And may we even now,
even now,
hear the echo.

HYMN: VU #136 O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile
(verses 1,2 & 4)

ALL: Like the religious leaders, we are suspicious of those who force us to abandon the status quo and consider fresh directions.

ONE: Would you have been among those who brought Jesus to the cross?

ALL: Like Pilate, we are among those who know Jesus' way, but are afraid of the consequences of following his teachings.

ONE: Would you have been among those who brought Jesus to the cross?

ALL: Like the soldiers, we really don't want to be involved in the issues, it isn't our place, our concern.

ONE: Would you have been among those who brought Jesus to the cross? *(moment of silence)*

Words of Assurance *(please stand as you are able)*

ONE: We find echoes from our own experience
in the action and the inaction of
those who brought Jesus to the cross -
those who had the power and
those who were his friends.

Now we see opportunities to take a different stance
and express a different point of view.

God calls us to change.

ALL: We are ready!

ONE: God's pardon and peace are ours.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

From: David Sparks, *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2016, page 37.

Choral Closing: MV #90 Don't Be Afraid *(sung 3 times)*

Postlude

(please leave the sanctuary in silence)