



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
Friday, March 30, 2018

### Good Friday

Leading Worship: Norma Hain

Reader: Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Barbara Foster, & Mel Friesen

Pianist: Mary Anderson

### GATHERING

#### Moment for Reflection

Beloved let us love one another: for love is of God;  
and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.  
He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is Love.  
1 John 4:7

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Sharing of Peace/Prelude

#### Lighting of the Christ Candle and the Candles of the World

Centering Hymn: MV #14 Where Two or Three are Gathered  
*(please remain seated)*

#### Call to Worship

ONE: Via Dolorosa, Via Dolorosa, The Painful Way

ALL: **We come this morning though the way may be full of shadows and cold and pain.**

ONE: Via Dolorosa, Via Dolorosa, The Way of Sorrow

ALL: **We come this morning though the way may lead to loneliness and questions that bring no comforting answers.**

ONE: Via Dolorosa, Via Dolorosa, The Way of Tears

ALL: **We come this morning with our hope intact and our faith that tears will cleanse the mind and heart and bring us your unfailing strength and Grace.**

Opening Hymn: VU #357 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus  
*(verses 1, 2, 4, 5)*  
*(please stand as you are able)*

#### Gathering Prayer (in unison)

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee.  
O Light that follows all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee.  
O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee.  
O Cross that reminds me of my faith,  
I will not shirk my responsibility.

Amen

*(Adapted from O Love That Will not Let Me Go V.U. 658)*

Hymn: VU #142 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross  
*(please stand as you are able)*

Morning Prayer: MV #21 sung 2x  
Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.

The Lord's Prayer VU #916 A Paraphrase

### WORD

#### Scripture Readings:

**In the Hebrew Scriptures: Psalm 22**

**In the Gospel: John 18 and 19**

ONE: We read this text so that in it we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: **May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.  
May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.**

Reflection: Ritual and Faith

Hymn: VU #144 Were You There

### **Closing Prayer in unison**

**Stay with us through the night.**

**Stay with us through the pain.**

**Stay with us blessed stranger  
till the morning breaks again.**

**Stay with us through the night.**

**Stay with us through the grief.**

**Stay with us blessed stranger  
till the morning brings relief.**

**Stay with us through the night.**

**Stay with us through the dread.**

**Stay with us blessed stranger  
till the morning brings new bread.**

**Amen**

*From W. Farquharson Stay with us Through the Night.*

### **Closing Hymn: VU #278 In the Quiet Curve of Evening**

#### **Sending Forth and Blessing**

**We go today via dolorosa.**

**But we go knowing that God's Grace  
is with us every day of our lives.**

**Amen and Amen**

### **Postlude**

*How the Way We Talk Can Change the Way We Work by Robert  
Kegan and Lisa Lahey*

*Nerja Spain Easter Processions – watch on You-tube*