



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK
Friday April 7, 2023

Good Friday

Leading Worship: Annette Taylor
Pianist: Mary Anderson
Music Leadership – James McLauchlan



GATHERING

Welcome

Lighting our Candles

Opening Prayer

Holy Mystery,
Ground of our Being
Be with us in the darkness of these hours
as we gather in the shadow of the cross of Christ

This is not where we would choose to be, O God;
brought face to face with this symbol of death
and instrument of torture.

Forgive us where we have sought to avoid such times,
where we have ignored the cross, denied our own pain,
or turned our backs on the suffering of others.

We know that you are here
to be with us, to comfort us,
to forgive and to free us.
And for this we give thanks.

Amen

Adapted from Bill Kervin, *Worship for All Seasons 11*, page 146.

Opening Hymn: VU #133 *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

(please stand as you are able)

THE PASSION STORY

Introduction

Were you there in the garden with our Lord?

Matthew 26:57-68, 27:1-2

Were you there when they took him to be judged?
The High Priest – Dan Olmsted

Matthew 27:11-26

Were you there when they called out “Crucify”?
Pilate – Maxine Olmsted

Matthew 27:27-32

Were you there when they crowned his head with thorns?
Simon of Cyrene – James McLauchlan

Matthew 27:33-44

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
The Soldier – Judy Killaby

Matthew 27:45-52a, 54

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
The Centurion – Norma Hain

Matthew 27:55-61

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Mary – Fran Jackson

Musical Offering – *God Weeps* – Harold Lapuz

Readings adapted from

[http://www.wvpc.org/uploads/2/4/1/0/24101054/
dramatic_reading_for_good_friday.pdf](http://www.wvpc.org/uploads/2/4/1/0/24101054/dramatic_reading_for_good_friday.pdf)

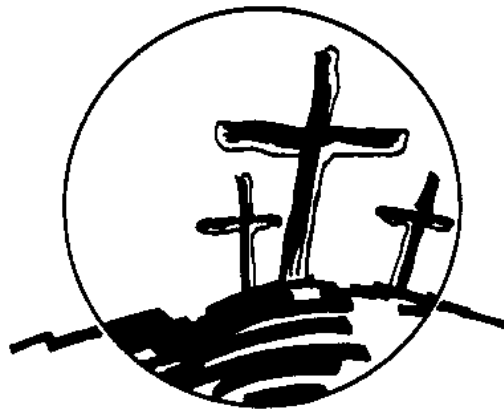
OUR RESPONSE

Prayers of the People and Jesus' Prayer

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

Commissioning & Benediction

(Please Leave the Service in Silence)



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