

# Good Friday Service "Journey to the Cross"

March 25, 2016



## Sun City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

### **"Bible Centered, Christ Focused"**

Within each of us lies the longing for God. Our goal is to provide a welcoming place to find peace with God, through careful study of His word with hearts focused on its ultimate hope, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are united by His Spirit to provide a safe and positive community of faith - a spiritual family - serving our Lord.

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## “Journey to the Cross”

### MUSICAL PRELUDE

#### WELCOME – Receiving Your Nail

He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us, nailing it to the cross. — (*Col 2:14*)

#### **The Prophecy: Suffering and Glory of the Servant**    (*Isaiah 53*)

L: Who has believed our message

and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

P: He grew up before him like a tender shoot,  
and like a root out of dry ground.

L: He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

P: He was despised and rejected by mankind,  
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

L: Like one from whom people hide their faces  
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

P: Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering,  
yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.

L: But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

P: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

L: He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;  
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,

P: and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

L: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death,  
though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

**Song:**                    “*Were You There*”

#198

## **The New Covenant**

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." *(Matthew 26:26-30)*

- Extinguishing the Light and Hammer Nail into the Cross

## **Jesus Arrested**

When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane. Now Judas came to the garden, guiding soldiers and officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees, carrying torches and weapons.

Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"

"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus said, and they drew back and fell to the ground.

Jesus answered, "If you are looking for me, then let these men go." This happened to fulfill the prophecy, "I have not lost one of those you gave me."

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"

Then the soldiers and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him and brought him first to the high priest. *(John 18:1-14)*

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**Song:**        *"Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley"*

#211

## **Peter's Three Denials**

Simon Peter and John were following Jesus. When Peter entered the courtyard, a servant girl asked him, "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" He replied, "I am not."

It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

So they asked him, "You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?"

He denied it, saying, "I am not."

A relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?" Again Peter denied it, and a rooster began to crow, and he remembered Jesus' warning. (*John 18:15-18, 25-27*)

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## **Jesus Before Pilate**

Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. So Pilate summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

“What is truth?” retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?” They shouted back, “No, not him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.  
(John 18: 28-40)

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**Song:**                    *“Jesus My Shepherd”*

### **Jesus Sentenced to Be Crucified**

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe and went up to him again and again, saying, “Hail, king of the Jews!” And they slapped him in the face.

Pilate came out and said, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him.” When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!”

As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, “Crucify! Crucify!” But Pilate answered, “You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him.”

The Jewish leaders insisted, “We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God.”

When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, and he went back inside the palace. “Where do you come from?” he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. “Do you refuse to speak to me?” Pilate said. “Don’t you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?”

Jesus answered, “You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”



## **The Death of Jesus**

Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."

*(John 19:28-37)*

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## **The Burial of Jesus**

Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

*(John 19:38-42)*

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

L: Your grace overwhelms our hearts.

P: How awesome and marvelous is your care for us.

L: Lord, Hear our prayers . . . (silent prayer)

L: We ask all these things through him who taught us to pray, saying

P: Our Father, who art in Heaven ....

\* HYMN: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” #195

\* COMMUNION

BENEDICTION & BLESSING IN DEPARTURE

L: May Jesus Christ who for our sakes became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you.

**P: Amen.**

\* PARTAKING OF COMMUNION

Come forward when you are ready

*(Signal a server to be served in your pew)*

Take a piece of the bread and partake

Take a cup and drink of it, then place it in the basket nearby

Prayerfully and **silently proceed out of the sanctuary**

... BUT RETURN ON SUNDAY FOR THE REST OF THE STORY

*(remember to bring your nail)*