

# Sampson's Mills Presbyterian Church



**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**

**7:00pm**

**Good Friday**  
**Tenebrae Service - A Service of Darkness**  
**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**

**Prelude**

*Lenten Medley*  
Lisa Addington, handbells

**\*The Call to Worship**

Leader: Come and see what love looks like.

**People: We come to behold the cross.**

Leader: See the wood, rough and splintered.

**People: See the suffering borne for us.**

Leader: See the Lamb of God, lifted up.

**People: We come to remember, to grieve, to worship.**

**Opening Hymn:**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**\*Unison Prayer for Good Friday**

Holy God, on this solemn day we come not to explain the cross, but to stand before it. Open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our hearts to feel, our hands to receive the depth of Christ's love. Tonight, as we remember the details surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus, speak to us in new ways. Let us truly feel your love through your ultimate sacrifice. We come to you broken, but open. No matter how our week has been, how our day has started, draw us now to the mystery of the cross, just as we are. Amen.

**Musical Prayer Response:**

*Just as I Am, Without One Plea*

Bob Levkus

**Scripture: Luke 22:39-44 – Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives**

*He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." <sup>41</sup> Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, <sup>42</sup> "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me, yet not my will but yours be done." <sup>43</sup> Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. <sup>44</sup> In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.*

**Musical Offering:**                    *At the Cross (Love Ran Red)*  
Lisa Addington & Lisa Boynton

**Scripture:**                    **John 18:1-12 – The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus**

*After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup> Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. <sup>3</sup> So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” <sup>5</sup> They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus said to them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup> Again he asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these people go.” <sup>9</sup> This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, “I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus. <sup>11</sup> Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?” <sup>12</sup> So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.*

**Musical Offering:**                    *Wondrous Love, O My Soul*  
Choir

**Scripture:**                    **Luke 22:54-62 – Peter Denies Jesus**

*Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup> When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. <sup>56</sup> Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, “This man also was with him.” <sup>57</sup> But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.” <sup>58</sup> A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, “You also are one of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!” <sup>59</sup> Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, “Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean.” <sup>60</sup> But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about!” At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. <sup>61</sup> 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.” <sup>62</sup> And he went out and wept bitterly.*

**Musical Offering:**                    *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*  
Lisa Addington, Jo VanMeter, Lisa Boynton, George Lepsch

**Scripture: John 19:1-6 – The Scourging**

*Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup> And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup> They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup> Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." <sup>5</sup> So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate<sup>[a]</sup> said to them, "Behold the man!" <sup>6</sup> When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."*

**Meditation:** *Father, Forgive Them*  
Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson

**Musical Offering:** *Old Rugged Cross*  
Kelly Serena, Jo VanMeter

**Scripture: Luke 23:24-25, 32-38 – The Crucifixion**

*So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. <sup>25</sup> He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. <sup>32</sup> Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him "This is the King of the Jews."*

**Musical Offering:** *My Lord, My Love is Crucified*  
Choir

**Scripture: John 19:38-42 – The Burial**

*Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. <sup>39</sup> Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. <sup>40</sup> They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial*

*custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup> Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. <sup>42</sup> And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.*

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Were You There?*

**\*Dismissal in Silence**

**\*Postlude**

*Jesus, Remember Me*

# When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

# 228

# Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you  
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you  
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you  
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 there?) Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you  
there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you  
there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you  
there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you  
there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are centered between the two staves. The lyrics are: "there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you". The lyrics are arranged in five lines, with each line corresponding to a measure of the melody. The melody is a simple, hymn-like tune, and the bass line provides a steady accompaniment. The lyrics are in a simple, direct style, and the overall mood is solemn and reflective.