

We, the members of Peace United Church of Christ, believe that we are called to be a congregation of grace and welcome to all of God's children:

- to celebrate every person as a child of God, created in God's image.
- to love all as God has first loved us.
- to acknowledge the presence of, and offer healing to the wounds of oppression, injustice, prejudice, and hate, and to stand with those who are left out.

Following Christ's example, we welcome and include everyone in all aspects of life, leadership, and ministry of the church. We affirm persons of all races, nationalities, sexual orientations, gender identities, family structures, physical or mental abilities, political stances, faith backgrounds and socio-economic status.

In the way of Jesus, we stand against acts of hate and violence in all their forms.

Therefore, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, where an extravagant welcome and grace are extended to all, and each person's gifts are celebrated, welcomed, nurtured and blessed, that all may be one. Amen.

Approved by Peace Church 10/20/2019

DELIVER US AND GIVE US PEACE – by John Davies

Lord Jesus,

by your cross and resurrection

deliver us

by your witness to the truth

deliver us

by your passion and death

deliver us

by your victory over the grave

deliver us

from the lust of power

deliver us

from the conspiracy of silence

deliver us

from the worship of weapons

deliver us

from the slaughter of innocents

deliver us

from the nightmare of hunger

deliver us

from the peace that is no peace

deliver us

from security that is no security

deliver us

from the politics of terror

deliver us

from the plundering of the earth's resources

deliver us

from the dispossession of the poor

deliver us

from the despair of this age

deliver us

by the light of the gospel

give us peace

by the good news for the poor

give us peace

by your healing of our wounds

give us peace

by faith in your word

give us peace

by hunger and thirst for justice

give us peace

by the coming of your kingdom

give us peace

Amen.

Peace United Church of Christ Rev. Eric Kirkegaard 10 April 2020 Good Friday

WORSHIP SERVICE

Greetings - A Time of Centering

All of the hymns used in today's service are found in the bulletin at the end of the worship service.

THE CALL TO GATHER

Leader: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

People: God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

Leader: For God sent a Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

People: If I say, "Let the darkness cover me, and light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O God.

Leader: The night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

All: Come, let us worship in spirit and in truth.

HYMN 283 "Were You There?" vs. 1

THE SONG OF THE SUFFERING SERVANT (IN UNISON)

Isaiah 53:4-9

Surely he has borne our grief and carried our sorrows; Yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities;

Upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to our own way;

And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;

Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, Although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

HYMN 283 "Were You There?" vs. 2

PROCLAIMING AND THE PASSION OF OUR LORD WORD

Reflection: "A world longing for a savior"

HYMN 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 1

I. Matthew 26:36-45a

HYMN 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 2

II. Matthew 26:45a-56

HYMN 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" verse 3

III. Matthew 26:57-67

Reflection: "Choosing who we will follow"

HYMN 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 1

IV. Matthew 26:69-27:26

HYMN 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 2

V. Matthew 27:27-45

HYMN 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley" verse 3

Reflection: "They will know... and still choose fear"

VI. Matthew 27:46-65

Special Music "The Old Rugged Cross"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (adapted from Bruce Prewer)

Leader: How have we forsaken you, O God?

Where there is suffering, we turn our eyes.

Where there is exclusion, we turn our backs.

Where there is need, we turn our hearts.

Where there is injustice, we remain silent.

And yet, we know that you are among the injured, and the lonely, and the hungry, and the poor.

People: How have we forsaken you, O God?

Silence

We seek your saving grace, God of Christ Jesus, for all those who on this Good Friday are lost among their doubts, sins, griefs or fears.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who suffer gravely from the cruel abuse of their fellows, and all who suffer because of the apathy and neglect of respectable people.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who are suffering from disease or accident, for those struggling through the pandemic and all of its devastating impacts.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For people who bear their suffering alone and unaided, and others who though surrounded by medical personnel and equipment, still find their pain unbearable.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who suffer abuse at home or at work, and the many children who suffer from the bullying or rejection of their peers.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For any who suffer a painful, terminal illness, and those loved ones whose spirits are this day torn by raw grief.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For those who in their suffering have no faith to support them, and any whose once-vibrant faith seems to be ebbing away under stress.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

For all who in suffering still trust and praise their God, and those who while suffering themselves still give comfort to their distressed friends and loved one.

O crucified Christ, have mercy on your sisters and brothers.

O God of the Cross, deliver us from all evil.

Silence

Loving God, we recommit our lives to you that we may humbly carry whatever cross you give us. Now is the acceptable time! Help us to be your hands, Holy One, reaching out to heal the hurting of this world.

Help us to be your ears, Holy One, hearing and understanding the cries for justice and mercy.

Help us to be your arms, Holy One, embracing the sorrow and offering comfort.

Help us to be your feet, Holy One, walking with those who suffer and guiding the journey toward peace.

Let us not forsake you any longer, O God. Now is the acceptable time!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We remember how you taught us to pray for a different way in our world, a different way in our lives. We pray:

"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

HYMN 283 "Were You There?" vs. 3

DISMISSAL

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Holy God, have mercy on us.

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There is no benediction offered today, our worship continues until we resume Easter Morning

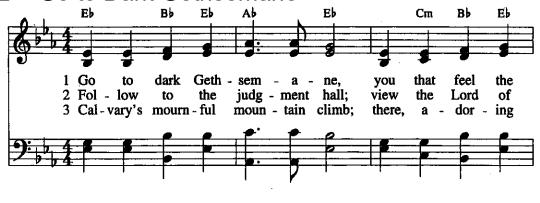
HYMN # 283 "Were You There"

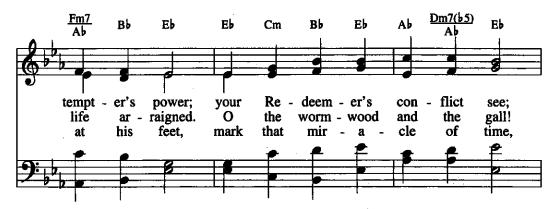


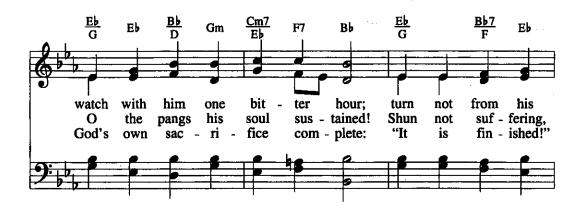
WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual

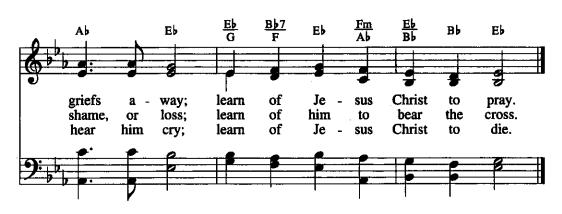
Used by Permission CCLI #1619690 WERE YOU THERE Irregular

HYMN # 272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"





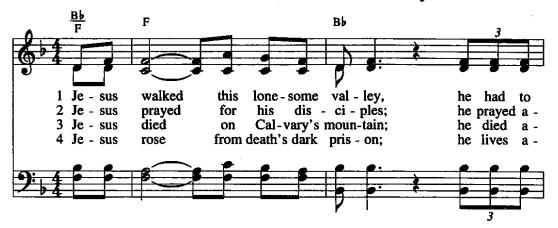


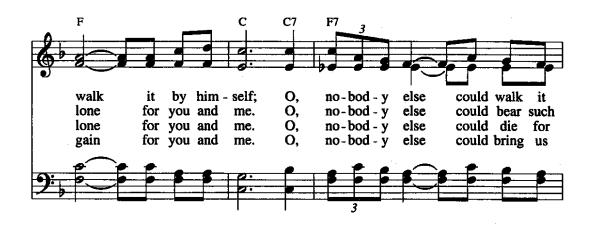


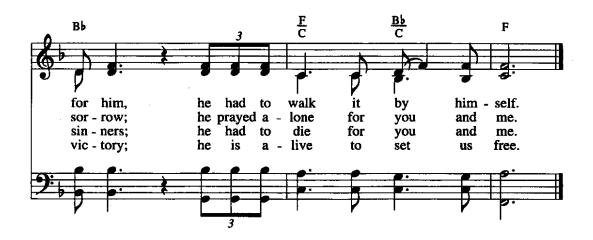
WORDS: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. MUSIC: Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

REDHEAD 7.7.7.7.7.

HYMN # 254 "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley"







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SERVING TODAY

Pianist: Karla Spaits (with Sherry McElhatton for the trio)

Musicians: Elsa Kirkegaard, Flute

Maëlle Leopardo, Violin,

(Our French exchange student – living with the Kirkegaards)

Editing: Berit Kirkegaard

Ministers: ALL OF YOU!

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On the web @ www.peace-ucc.org

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"Peace Church exists to feed souls, grow in God's extravagant love and together serve all of God's children and creation."