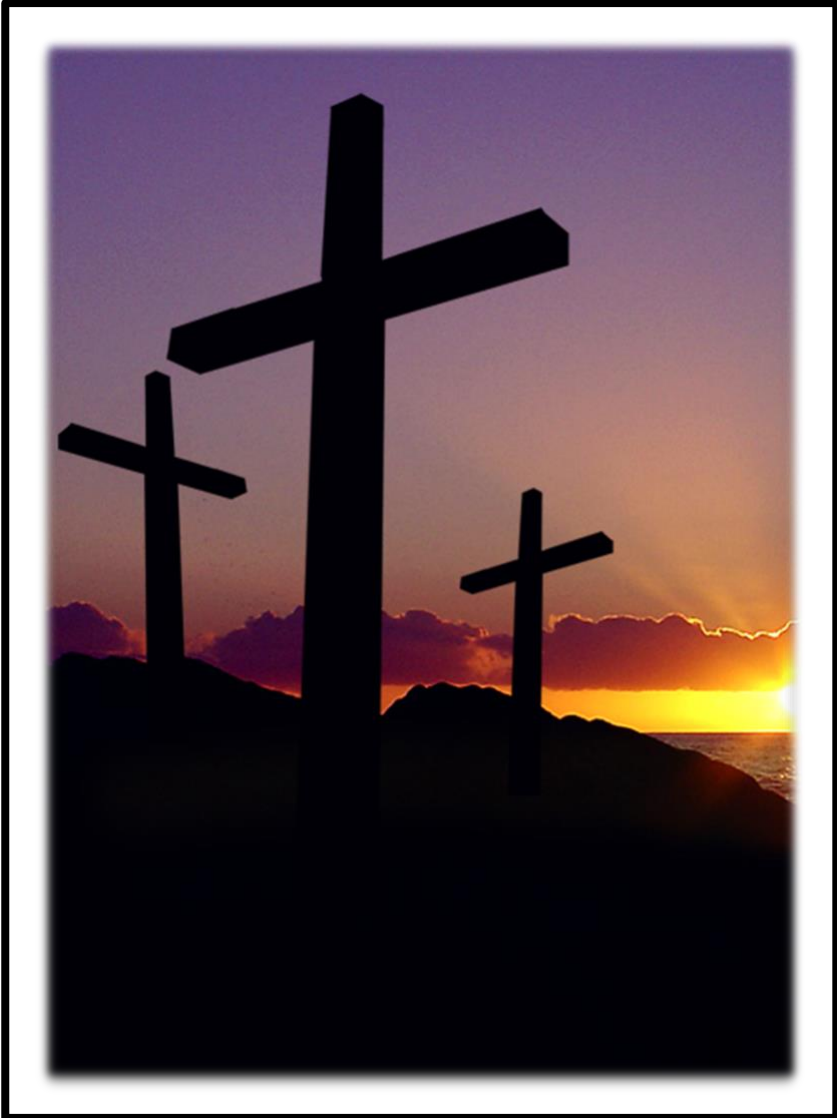

St. James'-Rosemount United Church

171 Sherwood Ave. Kitchener ON N2B 1K2

~ God's Compassionate Community Sharing Christian Faith ~



Good Friday, April 7, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Today we join with Calvary Memorial United Church and Forest Hill United Church to share the story of Good Friday.

Many thanks for all those sharing in today's service.

VU: Voices United

MV: More Voices

All readings taken from the New Revised Standard Version

The service will conclude with the singing of *Were You There* (verse 5) after which individuals are invited to leave the Sanctuary in silence. We are grateful to share this time with you.

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Announcements

*Opening Hymn

Were You There v1-4

VU 144

Call to Worship

SJR Choir **What Wondrous Love is This** (L. Eugene Oldham)

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!*

*What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I Am,
while millions join the theme I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme I will sing!*

*And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.*

An Affirmation of Faith

One: Were you there when they crucified our Lord?

All: How could we have been there? He was crucified centuries ago. All we know are his teachings and his love.

One: Jesus may have been crucified centuries ago, but isn't he here with us today? Didn't he give his life so that we may have new life?

All: Yes, he did. We admit that when we are put to the test, we betray and deny him. We are ashamed of our failures. We are selfish and self-righteous; yet, we struggle to live the Christian life. How can we be helpful and useful Christians?

One: We should thank God for the lasting impression Jesus left on our lives. Even if all others forsake us, we still have a friend in Jesus. As Christians, we should be true to God, seeking to fulfill God's purpose in our lives.

All: We shall always remember our Saviour and be grateful for his love. Greater love has no one than this. He gave his life for his friends. But you, God, gave your son!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

The Reading of the Passion

The Lesson of the Betrayal
(Matthew 26:1-4, 14-16; Mark 14:43-48, 53)

Statement of Betrayal

The Lesson of Denial
(Mark 14:60-64; John 18:25-27)

Prayer of Forgiveness

Calvary Memorial Choir **I Sing of My Lord** (E. Butler)

*I sing of my Lord in the upper room that night,
talking and praying with his friends.*

*I sing of the song that they sang at the end,
before going out into the night.*

I sing of my Lord who died for me that I might spotless be.

*I sing of the garden where my Master wept
great tears of sorrow and woe.*

Great drops of blood fell from his head.

"O Father, let this cup pass from me."

I sing of my Lord who died for me that I might spotless be.

*Lamb of God most holy, who on the cross did suffer,
Patient still and lowly, yourself to scorn did offer.*

*Our sins by you were taken, or hope had us forsaken:
Have mercy on us Jesus.*

I sing of the cross on a distant hill where my Lord cried in agony;

*I sing of a tomb where they laid him to rest;
in three days he would be free,*

I sing of my Lord who died for me that I might spotless be.

The Lesson of the Trial

(Matthew 27:1-2, 11-14, 22-26; John 18:29-31, 33, 36-37; 19:1-2)

Pilate (a soliloquy)

Hymn

Beneath The Cross Of Jesus

VU 135

(please remain seated for the singing of this hymn)

The Lesson of the Crucifixion

(John 19:16-18; Luke 23:34, 46; Matthew 27:45-46)

Statement for Crucifixion

Ministry of Music by Tom Nunn of Forest Hill

Tears in Heaven (E. Clapton)

Would you know my name? If I saw you in heaven

Would it be the same? If I saw you in heaven

I must be strong and carry on

'Cause I know I don't belong here in heaven

Would you hold my hand? If I saw you in heaven

Would you help me stand? If I saw you in heaven

I'll find my way through night and day

'Cause I know I just can't stay here in heaven

Time can bring you down, time can bend your knees

Time can break your heart have you begging please

Begging please beyond the door

There's peace, I'm sure, and I know there'll be no more

Tears in heaven

Would you know my name? If I saw you in heaven

Would it be the same? If I saw you in heaven

I must be strong and carry on

'Cause I know I don't belong here in heaven

The Meditation

“Were You There?”

Closing Hymn

Were You There v5

VU 144

(Please remain seated for the singing of this hymn)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



*When you feel ready,
you are invited to leave the Sanctuary in silence.*