

Ocean Heights

Presbyterian Church



www.ohchurch.org



A More Light Presbyterian Congregation joyfully welcoming people from all walks of life, acknowledging the differences of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disabilities. We celebrate all people as children of God.

Good Friday
March 29, 2024

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD CALLS US TO GATHER

PRELUDE When I Survey the Wondrous Cross by Shirley Brendlinger

CALL TO WORSHIP (STAND)

Pastor: Here is the man!

Right Side: Jesus, accused of being a criminal.

Left Side: Jesus, who threatens the religious establishment.

Pastor: Here is your King!

Right Side: The ruler of a Kindom that is not from this world.

Left Side: The ruler who threatens the power of empire.

Pastor: Here is the man!

Right Side: Who witnesses to the truth.

Left Side: Who gives no answer.

Pastor: Here is your King!

Right Side: Jesus, Mary's beloved.

Left Side: Jesus, God's own Beloved.

All: Jesus, the One we have gathered to worship.

PRAYER

HYMN 216 (STAND) Beneath the Cross of Jesus by Frederick Charles Maker

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals— so he shall startle many nations; rulers shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Call to Worship:
Written by Rev. Joanna Harader, from her blog Spacious Faith

Hymn 216: *For sheer intensity of feeling few hymns can match this meditation on the cross; impressive images and strong contrasts combine to give the text its ardor. The passionate language is augmented by the highly chromatic tune later composed for these words.*

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of YHWH been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a person of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed 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 all turned to our own way, and YHWH 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 a perversion of justice 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.

Yet it was the will of YHWH to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of YHWH shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

SILENT MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:28-40

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters.* It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters,* so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' They answered, 'If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.' The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters* again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' Pilate asked him, 'What is truth?'

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' They shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

SILENT MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:1-16a

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to



him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and striking him on the face. 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.' So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Here is the man!' 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.' The Jews answered him, 'We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Only Begotten of God.'

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters* again and asked Jesus, 'Where are you from?' But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, 'Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?' Jesus answered him, 'You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.' From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, 'If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.'

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat* on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew* Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Shall I crucify your King?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but the emperor.' Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

SILENT MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:16b-30

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew* is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth,* the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew,* in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, "The King of the Jews", but, "This man said, I am King of the Jews."' Pilate answered, 'What I have written I have written.' When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.' This was to fulfil what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

SILENT MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:31-42

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not





Hymn 228:
Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows⁴ that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'None of his bones shall be broken.' And again another passage of scripture says, 'They will look on the one whom they have pierced.' After these things, 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. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. 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. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN 217 (STAND)

On a Barren Hilltop

SERMON

Rev. John Nurnberger

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS (RESPONSIVE)

Pastor: I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have made a cross for you Savior.

All: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy on us.

Pastor: Forty years I led you through the desert...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I planted you as my fairest vineyard...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I poured out saving water from the rock...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I gave you a royal scepter...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I struck down your enemies...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I opened the waters...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I lifted you up to the heights...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I grafted you into my people Israel...

All: Holy God...

Pastor: I was hungry and you gave me no food...

All: Holy God...

HYMN 228

Were You There

an African American spiritual

ALL DEPART IN SILENCE.

Ocean Heights

Presbyterian Church



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A More Light Presbyterian Congregation
joyfully welcoming people from all walks of
life, acknowledging the differences of race,
ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender
identity, and disabilities. We celebrate all
people as children of God.

Easter Day

March 31, 2024

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD GATHERS US

PRELUDE

Resurrection Medley

by Mark Hayes

INTROIT

Alleluia

by Wm. Boyce

CALL TO WORSHIP (STAND)

Liturgist: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

Liturgist: The stone which the builders rejected,

All: has become the foundation for our lives.

Liturgist: The power of life has overcome the power of death.

All: The light of love has shattered the darkness of fear.

Liturgist: This is God's work; it is marvelous in our eyes.

All: This is the day God has made; let us celebrate with joy.

HYMN 231(STAND)

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

by John Bell

JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION AND HEALING

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (UNISON)

Living God, your Beloved One, Jesus Christ, taught us how to love you, one another, and ourselves. We must admit we do not always embrace or embody such love. We turn away from you as we do not love and serve you single-mindedly or wholeheartedly. We turn away from others by focusing on our wants while their needs go wanting. We turn from ourselves as we allow others to determine our worth, even though you have made us in your image, and have claimed us as your beloved children. Transform us into living signs of your love in the world; in the name of the Risen One.

Hymn 231:
Beginning with rather conventional Easter imagery, this text moves into unexpected territory by declaring that Christ's Resurrection is for "all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange." The name of this traditional Welsh melody simply means "lullaby."

Prayer of Reconciliation:
Adapted from Connections Worship Companion

MOMENT OF SILENCE

SUNG RESPONSE HYMN 243 (Sing Twice)

Be Not Affraid

Be not afraid; sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid; sing out for joy!

Christ is risen alleluia!

WORDS OF RECONCILIATION

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (STAND)

HYMN 249 (STAND)

Because You Live, O Christ

by Shirley Erena Murray

Hymn 249: This New Zealand author's text contains no familiar images of springtime to bolster its message, because Easter in the Southern Hemisphere comes in autumn. This hymn resulted both from her dissatisfaction with existing hymns and from her love of this exuberant Dutch tune.

GOD'S WRITTEN AND SPOKEN WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain, YHWH Omnipotent will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, food rich and succulent, and fine, aged wines. On this mountain God the mourning veil covering all people, the shroud covering all nations, destroying all death forever. God will wipe away the tears from every cheek, and will take away the shame of God's people on earth, wherever they live. YHWH has spoken. On that Day it will be said, "This is our God, this is the One for whose liberation we have waited, YHWH is the One in whom we had hoped! We rejoice exultantly in our deliverance, for the hand of YHWH rests on this mountain!"

SMALL TALK

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought perfumed oils so that they could anoint Jesus. Very early, just after sunrise on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked, they found that the stone had been rolled back. On entering the tomb, they saw a young person sitting at the right, dressed in a white robe. They were frightened but the youth assured them: "Do not be amazed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the One who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. Now go and tell the disciples and Peter, 'Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee, where you will see him just as he told you.'"

SERMON

Finishing the Story

Rev. John Nurnberger

Responding to God's Word

SPEAKING OUR COMMITMENTS (UNISON)

**I believe in the God of Easter morning who awakes us from our darkest dreams
and leads us into the light of a new day, who meets our pessimism
with stunning hope of angelic proclamation.**

**I believe in the God of Easter Day who beats us to the obstacles in our lives
and empties the dark tomb for us; Who appears in surprising ways
when we least expect it; Walking with us wherever life takes us.**

**I believe in the God of Easter evening who breaks into our closets and prisons,
bringing peace and crushing our fear.**

**I believe in the risen One who meets us with wounds on his hands and feet,
the Savior who bears scars as we all do, who sends us out
to bring Shalom to the world.**

*Our
Commitments:
Adapted from
Modern Liturgist*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF JESUS

**Holy Love in heaven, who is with us, blessed be your name.
May your way of loving be a reality here on earth.
Let us share our bread with those who hunger.
Let us learn to forgive as well as receive forgiveness.
Help us through times of temptation.
Lead us to holy innocence, beyond the evil of our day.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One.**

*Prayer of Jesus:
paraphrase of
prayers written
by Parker Palmer
and Manny
Santiago.*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Thine is The Glory

by G. F. Handel

DOXOLOGY (STAND)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 246 (STAND)

Christ is Alive!

by Brian Wren

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus

by G. F. Handel



*Hymn 246: In
1968 Easter fell
ten days after the
assassination of
Martin Luther
King Jr., and this
text was written
to express an
Easter hope
while mindful of
that terrible
event. Buoyed by
a triple-arched
tune, it affirms
the presence of a
wounded, risen
Christ with all
who suffer.*

Session

Class of 2024

Art Farnum

Betsy Phillips

Carol Petters

Class of 2025

Sharon Eaton

Walter East

Dianna Lease

Class of 2026



Thanks to our liturgist:

Nanette Tewksbury

Clerk of Session – Betsy Phillips
President of the Board of Trustees –
Lorene Gilman

Director of Music – Bob Helsabeck

Pianist – Heera Ghorashi

Office Administrator – Alison Walter

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EASTER FLOWERS

Given By:

Bob & Vicky Helsabeck

Joann East

DonnaLynn Warren

Robert Brown

Grace Miley

John & Carol Petters

Walter & Camy East

Sandy Purinton

Art & Sandra Farnum

The Castellano Family

David Prescott

Frank & Paula Allebaugh

Mike & Bev Haines

Peggy Smith

Joan Malia, Heather Malia

Nanette Tewksbury

Gary and Sharon Cresse

Brenda Brown & Jackie Craig

Nanette Tewksbury

Dianna & Randy Lease

Jeff & Sharon Eaton

Joan Kenny

Betsy Phillips

In Memory Of:

Ed Purinton, Al Snyder, Gus Feather, Kathy Doerr

My Parents: Walter & Peggy East

Paul G. Forney, Parents & Grandparents

Dennis Brown

Herbert & Mary Overpeck

Roy & Betty Voll, Selma & Henry Petters

Maria Ruiz; Mr. & Mrs. Luis Nieves

Mr. & Mrs. Walter East Sr.

Ed Purinton

Parents: Geoffrey & Eileen Long

Howard & Doris Farnum

Al & Ruth Herman

Catherine and Theophilus Prescott

Howard & Gwen Fish

Our Parents

Our Parents & Arthur Smith

Billy Malia & Elin Clements

Mom

Parents: Jack & Betty Cresse

William & Mabel Grosvenor, Shelly O'Leary

Parents: George & Anna Brown, Bill & Gerry Craig

In Honor Of:

Mom's Birthday

Our Grandchildren: Theron & Brayden

The children of OHPC

Alexei Navalny

The Pastor Nominating Committee