

April 6, 2012

Our Community Gathers

Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

Prelude

HeavenSound Handbells

Were You There? arr. Hal H. Hopson

**JESUS PRAYS** 

Matthew 26:36-46

Gemma Burns

Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go apart and pray'...

Thy Will Be Done Sanctuary Choir

## **JESUS IS BETRAYED**

Matthew 26:47-52

**Robert Fleming** 

While Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs...

Betrayed
Jubilee Theatre Ministry

## **JESUS IS CONDEMNED**

Matthew 26:59-66

Sharri McGlaughling

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death...

Beneath the Cross of Jesus Terry Jones

# Good Friday

Good Friday is the day when Christians commemorate the crucifixion and death of Jesus. This is an important event in Christianity, as it represents the sacrifices and suffering in Jesus' life. The crucifixion was the culmination of a number of events in Holy Week, including: the triumphal return of Jesus to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday; the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus; and the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday. Good Friday is a day of mourning. Candles are often extinguished and statues, paintings and crosses may be draped in black, purple or gray cloth.

## Abba God

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, he called out to his Heavenly Parent with the Aramaic word "Abba!" This term is strictly translated "Father" yet it carries with it such a depth of affection and intimacy that it communicates not merely the fact of Jesus' relationship with his parent but, more fully, the love and affection and intimacy of which that relationship is formed. In our choice to use this term - "Abba" in our translations of the Bible texts, it is our hope that we, too, would come to experience not only the truth that we are God's children but that we might more fully know the intimate joy of this relationship, as it is formed in love and affection.

## **JESUS IS DENIED**

Matthew 26:69-75 Ken Schroeder

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But Peter denied it before all of them...

The Denied Stone
arr. Vanessa Bell Armstrong
LaWanna White

## **JESUS IS JUDGED**

Matthew 27:22-24

Kim Pierce

Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!...

God With Us arr. Folk Angel Rev. Kristen Klein-Cechettini

## **JESUS TAKES HIS CROSS**

John 19:14-18

Elisa Vega-Burns

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews, 'Here is your King!' They cried out, 'Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!'...

Via Dolorosa
Bridgett Vinson and Marcial Renteria

#### **JESUS CONSOLES**

Luke 23:27-31

Annette Beall

A great number of the people followed Jesus, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and your children...

Prayers for the World Rev. Michael Diaz

Offering Rev. Terri Steed

## **JESUS IS CRUCIFIED**

Luke 23:32-34 Wayne Wiggins

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him...

Strange Fruit
Cassandra White

## **IESUS SAVES**

Luke 23:39-43 Vickey Gibbs

One of the criminals hanged with Jesus kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah?...

Jesus Remember Me Cassandra White and Congregation

## **JESUS LOVES**

John 19:25-27 Gloria Marrero

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene...

Mary, Did You Know? Reed Hoke

## **JESUS DIES**

Luke 23:44-46 Tony Stegall

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land ...

Heartbeat
Shavailya Long and Rev. Michael Diaz

#### **JESUS IS BURIED**

Mark 15:46-47 Joel Palomares

Then Joseph brought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb ...

Were You There? Sanctuary Choir

# Strange Fruit

"The crucifixion of Jesus was a First Century lynching." - James Cone, African American Theologian

"Strange Fruit," a poem written by Jewish-American schoolteacher, Abel Meeropol, and made famous by singer Billie Holiday in 1939, is a painful reminder of the history of lynching in America. Like lynching, the cross was an unspeakable act of senseless violence and unjust public murder of outcasts and the oppressed in Jesus's day. Just as a lynching tree invokes feelings of fear, trembling, and anger, on Good Friday we re-experience the fear, trembling, and anger of Jesus being publicly executed on the cross. When looking at the cross on Good Friday, one sees Jesus as a victim of violence, a victim of a first century lynching.



