

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 14, 2006 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

THE PEOPLE GATHER IN SILENCE

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,

People: who redeems us from sin and death.

Leader: For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God.

Leader: Let us pray:

***HYMN** 92 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

LITANY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Leader: On this, a most faithful and a most fateful day in the long history of God's people, we reach the climax in the unfolding drama of the life and ministry of Jesus.

People: We confess, O Lord, that this is a fateful day because we have been a faithless people.

Leader: We have been too much like the innkeeper, who could not find room in his inn for Jesus; and the rich young ruler, who could not find room in his life for Jesus; and even Herod, who could not find room in his world for Jesus.

People: We confess, O Lord, that this is a fateful day because we have been a faithless people.

Leader: We have been too much like James and John, who promised to follow you, but demanded the choice seats in your kingdom; and Peter, who hailed you as the Christ, but denied knowing the suffering servant; and even Judas, who loved you much, but betrayed you for thirty pieces of silver.

People: We confess, O Lord, that this is a fateful day because we have been a faithless people.

Leader: We have been too much like the Pilate who wanted to release Jesus, but released Barabbas; and the Pilate who could find no fault in Jesus, but left him to the mercy of those who did; and even the Pilate who could have prevented the crucifixion, but chose instead to wash his hands.

(continues)

*All who are able may stand

People: We confess, O Lord, that this is a fateful day because we have been a faithless people.

Leader: As we recall the cross you chose to bear in taking our side, we remember the crosses we have shunned to avoid taking your side.

All: O Christ, who was faithful to God unto death, grant us the grace to be faithful unto you in life.

THE READING OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

John 18:1-14

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

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 heavy cross for my soul, for my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

John 18:15-27

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

John 18:28-40

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

John 19:1-16

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

John 19:17-30

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

John 19:31-42

(all singing – What Wondrous Love is This vs. 1)

TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION

(concluding with Lord's Prayer)

Congregational Response: Amen

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE CROSS IS CARRIED IN

*HYMN 102 *Were You There?*

SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

Congregational Response: Lord, have mercy.

THE CHRIST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

*HYMN 93 *Ah, Holy Jesus*

ALL DEPART WHILE SINGING 599 *Jesus, Remember Me*