

LENT  
2019



real  
freedom

# GOOD FRIDAY

the  
seven last words  
of Christ

April 19, 2019  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
A Service of Tenebrae

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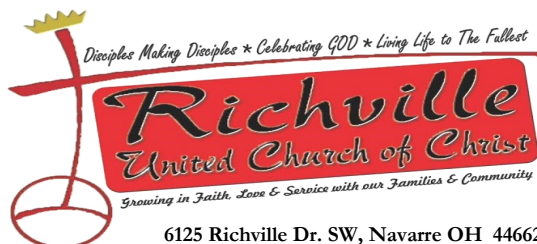
Our  
accessible/family  
friendly restroom  
(equipped with  
changing table) is  
located at the back  
of the Fellowship  
Hall to the right of  
the kitchen.

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*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!*

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
A Service of Tenebrae

**GATHERING OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY**

+ **Designates all who are able please stand.**

7:00 pm - Ringing of the Church Bell

**RE-ENTERING THE STORY OF CHRIST'S FINAL HOURS AND PASSION**

*(Matthew 26:57-27:31)*

Meditative Music: **Prelude on "Crux Fidelis"** [Michael Calabris] Latin plainchant, 6<sup>th</sup> century

**WELCOME**

+ Opening Hymn #245 [vs. 1,2] **"What Wondrous Love Is This"**

**HONORING THE HEBREW PROPHECIES ABOUT MESSIAH:**  
**A Good Friday litany based on 'The Song of The Suffering Servant'**

*(Isaiah 52:13-53:12)*

**Leader:** Holy GOD, we come tonight to both honor YOUR wise and faithful servant and to wrestle with our own darkness.

**PEOPLE:** We, each and every one of us, have both received YOUR merciful gifts and have turned our backs on YOU when the going has gotten rough.

**Leader:** Tonight, strengthen us –that we might not turn our eyes away from all Jesus endured, all that we had a hand in inflicting upon him.

**PEOPLE:** He was one of us –nurtured and sustained by YOU, sharing a common lot with the human family. Yet, we ignored and ridiculed him.

**Leader:** Despised, rejected –a man of suffering, all too familiar with pain.

**PEOPLE:** And yet, he took up our pain. He bears our suffering.

**Leader:** Still, we fail to esteem him. We add insult to the injuries he sustained on our behalf.

**PEOPLE:** Pierced for our transgressions, crushed for our sins; the punishment that brings us peace was leveled against him.

**Leader:** By his wounds we are healed! But, we all, like sheep, have gone astray –each of us has turned to our own way.

**PEOPLE:** Oh LORD, YOU laid on him the failures of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.

**Leader:** Like a lamb led to the slaughter, or as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

**PEOPLE:** Through a corruption of justice and unfair oppression, he was taken away.

**Leader:** We know that, like those of his own generation, we have failed to protest such inequity, we have allowed that sweet and sacred life to be punished again and again.

**PEOPLE:** Cut-off from the land of the living, YOUR servant was assigned a criminal's execution and grave. He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

**Leader:** Yet, somehow, YOU O LORD, allowed his suffering to serve as an offering for our sin.

**PEOPLE:** And that is why YOU have promised him the reward of an eternal family which stretches and will continue to stretch across the nations and the generations.

**Leader:** After all his pain, after all the indignities, he will see the light of life and be satisfied.

**PEOPLE:** By this knowledge, YOUR righteous servant will justify us and cleanse us from wrongdoing.

**Leader:** May we give him the respect he deserves. May we follow him throughout his trials this night. May we rightly honor him as he endures the torment and humiliation which we are deserving of.

**ALL:** *And though this king of bloodied-crown will face discrimination and death, we know that YOU gave him The Name above every name.*

*May we bless that name this night and give thanks through honest confrontation with the part we play. For he bore our sins and through him, we have peace. AMEN!*

Sung Response #239 [vs. 1] **“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”**

**Prayer of Invocation and Consecration** (*unison*)

Ever-present GOD,

On this night, our whole world is engulfed in shadows as we remember Jesus’ death. We confess that we want to push the fast-forward button on this familiar story because it hurts so much.

It hurts to think of his betrayal and arrest; it hurts to imagine Jesus abandoned and suffering on the cross with only a faithful few watching him breathe his last breath. It hurts to watch your light overtaken by the shadows of the world.

But if we are to truly be followers of Christ, then we must follow him here too. Renew our resolve, O LORD –that we would know that YOU are present with us, even here. And with emboldened hearts and the courage YOU provide, may we renew our commitment to the Will and Way of Jesus; praying the prayer he taught his own disciples, saying...

*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. 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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Hymn of Preparation #250 [vs. 1,2] **“Were You There”**

**ENCOUNTERING THE FINAL WORDS OF THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Forgive - Luke 23:32-38 - Jeff Dafler

\*Forsaken - Matthew 27:45-49 - Debbie Ciesielczyk

\*Son & Mother - John 19:23-27 - Brittany Stuart

Anthem: **“See Gethesemene”** [RUCC Chancel Choir] Lloyd Larson

\*Thirst - John 19:28 and 29 - Gary Bickel

\*Paradise - Luke 23:39-43 - Bonnie Willis

\*Finished - John 19:30 - Steve Gerber

\*Spirit - Luke 23:44-49 - Will Stuart

Sung Response #250 [vs. 3] **“Were You There”**

## Responding To The Story of His Suffering and Our Salvation

### PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

*\*(At this time, as the choir sings, please come to the front of the sanctuary down the center aisle. If you have a prayer card, please tear it in half -pinning one half to the cross and keeping the other half as a reminder of tonight. If you have an offering, please place it in one of the plates located on the left & right hand sides of the chancel. Once you have done so, please return to your pew from the back of the sanctuary, by using the far aisles)\**

Offertory **“Lamb of God”** [RUCC Chancel Choir] Twila Paris, arranged by Craig Courtney

+ Offertory Response #33 [vs. 3] **“How Great Thou Art”**

+ Prayer of Dedication (*Responsive*)

**Leader:** GOD of our Making and Redeeming,

We are amazed that Jesus, facing death still clung to his high calling (his true identity) and reached out to comfort and empower those dearest to him.

**PEOPLE:** At the foot of his cross, Jesus called his mother and his beloved disciple into a new community. He asked them to be the best versions of themselves for one another and their own wellbeing. He reminded them of YOUR hand in their lives and call upon us them –just as he calls to us tonight.

**Leader:** Give us the grace and courage to join them there. Use our gifts of heart, mind, hands, time and treasures to welcome all who struggle and grieve.

**ALL:** Into this New Covenant of Sacrifice and Grace, we commit ourselves and our offerings. In The Name of The One who died, that we might truly, fully, freely live. AMEN!

### EXTINGUISHING THE CHRIST-LIGHT and FACING THE SILENCE

+ Sending Hymn #233 [vs. 1-3] **“The Old Rugged Cross”**

*\*[Tonight, having walked with Jesus through his humiliations, torture and death, we exit this sacred space without benediction or postlude.*

*We leave wordlessly and await The Word of Life to be spoken to us once more.*

*Listen to the bell toll.*

*Consider how finite and precious life is.*

*A mere 33 years of earthly life changed even the very way we mark time and history. We let go of the past and move toward an uncertain future. But we do so knowing that GOD always has the final word.]\**

**Ring of the Church Bell (33 times)**

Join us Easter Sunday, as we celebrate the glorious  
Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

7:30 AM	Sunrise Worship Service +[An Easter Breakfast will follow the service]+
10:30 AM	Regular Worship Service