

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF THE CROSS  
VIGIL OF DESCENDING DARKNESS**

**BALDWIN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN  
201 KNOEDLER ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15236**

7.30 P.M.

March 30, 2018

Organ Prelude

Hegarty

***“Meditation”***

*A solemn observance, known as “Tenebrae,” was first celebrated in the fourth Century A.D. The word “Tenebrae” means darkness or shadows in Latin. In this service, sections of candles will be gradually extinguished in response to the Solemn Reproaches of the Cross.*

*The Church remains darkened until the Great Vigil of Easter, and disciples must contend with the seeming victory of the darkness.*

**PLEASE BE SEATED IN SILENCE**

**Meditation Before Worship**

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death –  
even death on a cross.*

*(Philippians 2:5-8)*

***A free-will donation for the benefit  
of South Hills Interfaith Ministry (SHIM)  
is suggested, and a collection plate  
is located at the entrance to the Sanctuary***

## THE GATHERING

### Call to Worship

### Antiphonal

Leader: Behold the cross, on which was hung the salvation of the world.

**People: Come, let us worship.**

Leader: O crucified Jesus, Son of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, eternal Word of God,

**People: We worship you.**

Leader: O crucified Jesus, holy temple of God, dwelling place of the Most High, gate of heaven, burning flame of love.

**People: We worship you.**

Leader: O crucified Jesus, sanctuary of justice and love, full of kindness, source of all faithfulness,

**People: We worship you.**

Leader: O crucified Jesus, ruler of every heart, in you are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in you dwells the fullness of the Godhead,

**People: We worship you.**

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God,

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Jesus, bearer of our sins

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Jesus, Redeemer of the world,

**People: Grant us peace.**

## Prayer

L: The Lord be with you.

***P: And also with you***

L: Let us pray.

Leader: Almighty God, look with mercy on your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## \*Hymn

#201

*“Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?”*

## THE WORD

### \*Prayer for Illumination

Unison

***Be present O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of the night. With the grace of your Holy Spirit, grant that the words we hear with our outward ears be engrafted inwardly in our hearts that we may arise from the death of the soul through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*(Please Be Seated)*

### First Reading

Pew Bible pg. 683

*Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12*

### Psalm

Pew Bible pg. 500

*Psalm 22:1-8; 14-24*

**Second Reading**

**Pew Bible pg. 220**

*Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9*

**Gospel Reading**

**Pew Bible pg. 113**

*John 19:16b-30*

**Meditation**

**Rev. Walkup**

*“Lottery of Love”*

## **The Solemn Intercession & Lord’s Prayer**

Leader: Behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world

***People: Come, let us worship.***

Leader: Behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world

***People: Come, let us worship.***

Leader Behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world

***People: Come, let us worship.***

## **THE DESCENT OF DARKNESS**

### **The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross**

Leader: O my people, O my church, What have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior

***People: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal***

***One, have mercy upon us.***

**Hymn**

**#191**

*“Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?”  
(Verses 1 - 3)*

Leader: I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna: I brought you through tribulation and penitence, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior

***People: Lord, have mercy.***

**Hymn**

**#189**

*“’Tis Midnight, and on Olive’s Brow”  
(Verses 1 – 3)*

Leader: What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior

***People: Christ, have mercy.***

**Hymn**

**#193**

*“Go to Dark Gethsemane”  
(Verses 1 – 3)*

Leader: I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you

have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**People:** *Lord, have mercy.*

**Hymn**

**#198**

*“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”  
(Verses 1 – 3)*

Leader: I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior

**People:** *Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.*

**Hymn**

**#194**

*“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”*

Leader: My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**People: Lord, have mercy**

**Hymn**

**INSERT**

*“On a Barren Hilltop”*

Leader: I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

**Hymn**

**#196**

*“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”  
(verses 1 – 3)*

Leader: I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel, and you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Hymn**

**#190**

*“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”  
(Verses 1 - 2)*

Leader: I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters; I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior

**People: *Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.***

### **Final Reading**

*(Church Fully Darkened)*

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than the light.

*(John 1:1-4; 3:19)*

**People: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?***

*(Psalm 22:1)*

**Bell Tolls 33 Times (Years of Jesus' life)**

**Depart in Reverent Silence**

**The Recessional**

**Benedict**

*“Way Of The Cross”*

***\*Please Stand if Able***

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