RESPONDING TO GOD’S CRUCIFIED WORD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
We confess to You, our Lord and Savior, that we have betrayed and denied You, forgotten and doubted You.

When our faith is tested, we wonder where You are.
When we see injustice in the world, we often stand by, we turn our backs, we ignore the cries of others.
We confess that again and again we deny You and betray You with our silence when we fail to proclaim Your Good News, when we fail to live out Your teachings and love our neighbor as ourselves.

Forgive us, O God, and help us to truly repent.
Help us to remember Your sacrifice, Your love, and to know Your forgiveness.

In the name of the One who lived, who was crucified, and who lives again, Jesus the Messiah, we pray.

Amen.

Mindi Welton-Mitchell

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS
During this time, as we sing hymns of the passion, you are invited to pray in your pew, or you may come forward, whenever you feel moved to do so, to kneel at the rail to pray. Or you may come into the chancel to kneel around the cross. You may want to touch the cross, or even to rest your head upon it, as a way of thanking Jesus for what he has done for you or as a way of giving to him burdens that you are carrying, believing that “by his wounds, we are healed.”

Hymn 286  O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
Hymn 288  Were You There

* Hymn 298  When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*PRAYER
Jesus, we wait here by your tomb carrying our grief; the grief of the betrayer, the grief of the denier, the grief of the crucifiers.
We carry the grief of the lost, the heartbroken, the bereft. Upon you was laid the grief of us all.
It is finished. God of endings, God of darkness, God of the tomb, God of dark days and great loss, be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

DEPART IN SILENCE
There is no benediction or dismissal on Good Friday in recognition of the fact that this act of worship is not complete until the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Those who wish may stay to pray and meditate in the quietness of this moment. Whenever you are ready, please leave the church in complete silence.

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 19, 2019
12:10 p.m.

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.”
1 Peter 2:24

WORSHIP LEADERS
Liturgists
Reverend Taylor Fuerst
Reverend Michael Mumme
Reverend Cathy Stone
Music Director/Organist
Scott Davis
Cantor
Chrissy Whitford

First United Methodist Church
www.fumcaustin.org
GATHERING
BENEATH THE CROSS
On this solemn day the service begins in silence.

CENTERING WORDS
On this Good Friday,
we contemplate the good news of the cross:
how Christ our Lord stretched out his arms
to embrace a world of suffering and sin;
how Christ our Lord stretched out his arms
to save us.

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Come and see the beloved Son of God.
He is high and lifted up.
Come and see the Ruler of the nations.
He is high and lifted up.
Come and see the Savior of the world.
He is high and lifted up—upon a cross.

* HYMN 289  Ah, Holy Jesus Stanza 1 and 2

PSALM READING  Psalm 22 Selected Verses

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.
But I am a worm, and not human;
scorned by others and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;
“Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”

Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.

On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near and there is no one to help.
Many bulls encircle me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.
I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
For dogs are all around me;
a company of evildoers encircles me.
My hands and feet have shriveled;
I can count all my bones.
They stare and gloat over me;
they divide my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

PROCLAIMING
THE PASSION STORY

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST,
ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF JOHN
Following each reading, there will be a brief silence.

I.  John 18:1-11
The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus
Hymn 290  Go to Dark Gethsemane Stanza 1

II.  John 18:12-14
Jesus Before the High Priest

III.  John 18:15-18
Peter Denies Jesus

Hymn 290  Go to Dark Gethsemane Stanza 2

IV.  John 18:19-24
The High Priest Questions Jesus

V.  John 18:25-27
Peter Denies Jesus Again

VI.  John 18:28-32
Jesus Before Pilate

VII.  John 18:33-38
Jesus Before Pilate

VIII.  John 18:38b-40
Pilate Relieves Barabbas

IX.  John 19:1-11
Jesus Is Mocked and Flogged

X.  John 19:12-16
Jesus Is Sentenced
Hymn 298  Ah, Holy Jesus Stanza 5

XI.  John 19:16b-22
King of the Jews

XII.  John 19:23-24
Soldiers Cast Lots for Jesus’ Clothes

XIII.  John 19:25-27
The Beloved Disciple and Mary

XIV.  John 19:28-30
It Is finished
Hymn 298  Ah, Holy Jesus Stanza 4

XV.  John 19:31-37
Joseph of Arimathea buries Jesus’ body

XVI.  John 19:38-42
Following the reading, there will be an extended silence.