The Original Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
Wrentham, Centre
April 7th, 2023, 12:00pm noon
Good Friday
Meditation on The Seven Last Words of Christ
A Service of Prayers for Healing and Reconciliation

Order of Worship

PRELUDE **"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"** J. G. Walther

WORDS OF GOD'S PROMISE

HYMN NO. 187 ***O Sacred Head, Now Wounded***

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION in unison
O God, we see ourselves in the stories of this day. We see ourselves undisciplined in prayer, unable to stay awake to commune with you. We see ourselves running away like Peter did. We betray your trust in us and we deny our commitment to you. We confess we participate in the evil of Good Friday, and in the evil of our own days. This is not what we want, O Lord. Save us from ourselves, in your mercy, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

COLLECT FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Those who are able please stand.

MEDITATION ON THE SEVEN LAST WORDS
We listen, pray and offer moments of silence for our Lord on the Cross
Luke 23:33-34 "Father, forgive them…"
Luke 23:39-43 "Today you will be with me in Paradise"
John 19:23-27 "Woman, here is your son"

HYMN No. 192 ***My Song is Love Unknown*** *Vs. 1,3,5*

Matthew 27:39-49 "Why have you forsaken me?"
John 19:28-29 "I thirst"
John 19:30 "It is finished"

HYMN No. 200 ***Where You There?***

Luke 23:44-49 "Father, into your hands I commend your spirit"

PRAYER OF ACCEPTANCE *from 1 Peter 2:21-24*
Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you suffered for us and left an example for us to follow in your steps. You had done nothing wrong. You had spoken no deceit. You were insulted and did not retaliate with insults. When you were suffering you made no threats but put your trust in the upright judge. You were bearing our sins in your own body on the cross, so that we might die to our sins and live for uprightness. Through your bruises we have been healed.
All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER in unison
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 STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR
The altar cloth and servant stole are taken away to reveal the cross at our center.

MEDITATION ON THE CROSS
Leader: Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
All: Come, let us worship the Christ, the child of God.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

HYMN No. 183 ***What Wondrous Love Is This*** *Vs. 1 & 3*

PARTING BLESSING
Leader: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

DEPART IN QUIETNESS
We go in silence to keep watch and pray and await Easter Sunday morning

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