

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



GOOD FRIDAY

April 18, 2025

A Tenebrae Service of Darkness

6:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

O Man, Bewail the Grievous Fall
Eric J. Gastier, organ

Johann Sebastian Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reverend David Rice

In your hands he placed himself:

all that he was, all that he had ever been,
all his beauty, all his obedience, all his loving.

In God's hands he placed himself.

He was returning to his father, he was going home.

For all who have died,

for all who love them and miss them:

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

HAVE MERCY ON US

O God, from whose eyes the measure of our faith is not hidden,
wrench from us now all religiosity,
all rules and regulations of our scheduled selves
that separate us from your Holy Spirit.

**O God, who calls each of us by name to be the church,
give us love enough to make a difference,
give us vision enough to follow,
give us endurance enough to hold steadfast
in the face of the unholy.**

O God, who claims us as disciples,
bless us now and touch us with your holiness
that we might have commitment enough to be good news to the poor.

**O God of the bruised, we pray for healing.
Comfort those who cry in dark corners:
the lonely, the strangers, the weary, the fearful,
the disappointed, the anxious, the depressed,
the forsaken, the dispirited, the grieving,
and those who lie in sickness and in pain.**

O God who wept over Jerusalem,
open our eyes to those around us
who scream in silence the depth of their despair.

O God of compassion, heal our hard hearts to tenderness.

O God of the oppressed,
fire us with justice that we might proclaim liberty to the captives.

**O God who gave us the rainbow and parted the Red Sea,
we dare to pray for miracles for the powerless.**

O God of the hungry,
we pray for those who have not bread.

Remove, O God, the bondage of hunger
by removing our shackles so that we might share our bread.

**O God of the homeless,
we pray for those who have no land.
We pray that you will open the doors of our hearts
and let your wandering people in.**

O God of the captives,
have mercy on those who must live out their lives
enslaved to someone else
because of race or politics or economics or faith.
Loose our bonds that we might risk our own securities on their behalf.

**O God of peace,
give peace to our hearts and to our nation and to our world.
O Lamb of God, have mercy upon us!**

(‘Have Mercy on Us’ from Kneeling in Jerusalem by Ann Weems)

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Luke 22:1-13	David Rice
Luke 22:14-23	Valerie Lippert
Luke 22:24-34	Alden Almquist
Luke 22:35-46	Carol Gates
Luke 22:47-53	Val Fulton
Luke 22:54-62	Carol Kirkstadt
<i>Ah, Holy Jesus</i>	Karolyn Rice, flute
Luke 22:63-71	Ann Gastier
Luke 23:1-12	Troy McMillen
Luke 23:13-25	Emily McMillen
<i>Kyrie</i>	Nancy Almquist, soprano
Luke 23:26-31	Susie Slack
Luke 23:32-43	Joan Firmin
Luke 23:44-49	Pat Miles
<i>Were You There? (Spiritual)</i>	David Rice

You may remain in the pews or leave the sanctuary in silence.

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

**More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network
Earth Care Congregation and Matthew 25 Church**

Earth Care Pledge: Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

The Mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace. We are called to achieve this goal by furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and by working for the unity of the PC(USA).

The Mission of More Light Presbyterians: Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

The Mission of the Matthew 25 Church: Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We commit ourselves to congregational vitality by acting boldly and compassionately to end systemic poverty and structural racism, serving people who are oppressed, imprisoned, poor.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	April 20	9:15 a.m. — Sunday School/Easter Egg Hunt
		10:15 a.m. — Organ and Brass Prelude
		10:30 a.m. — Easter Service and Communion in the Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church
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