

Prelude *In the Garden* - arr. M. Hayes

OPENING READING "A Gate Called Truth" (Ann Weems)

Call to Worship Part 1

Rainbow colours, vibrant and dancing across the path of life.

**Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet,
Filling our lives with wonder hope and possibility.**

Jesus came, sharing the path of human life,
declaring and living possibility in the midst of poverty,

freedom in the midst of Roman occupation,
hope in the midst of despair,

joy in the midst of sorrow,
life in the midst of death.

Jesus came as vibrant light in a shadowed world.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light this candle today as a symbol of the love and grace that saturated the life of our friend and guide, Jesus Christ

It shines in this place

It shines in and through us.

It shows us the way on this difficult day.

Call to Worship Part 2

Rainbow colours dancing across the path of life
Until suddenly shadows fall, blocking the light,
greying the rainbow,

**shadows of Roman puppets and power,
shadows that appear stronger than the possibility
and freedom,**

the hope and joy and life that Jesus offers.

We gather to worship today in the growing shadows.

**We gather to worship even as the rainbow fades and
fear takes hold of our hearts.**

Opening Prayer

Hymn *Deep in Our Hearts* MV 154

Scripture Reading # 1 John 18:12-27 Larry

Peter's denial and the high priest

The red cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Scripture Reading # 2 John 18:28-40 Dr. Alex

Jesus before Pilate

The orange cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Scripture Reading # 3 John 19:1-16a Zoe

Jesus is sentenced to death

The yellow cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Special Music - *If You Love Me (From At His Name)*
J. Raney

Scripture Reading # 4 John 19:16b-25a Joyce

Jesus is crucified

The green cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Scripture Reading # 5 John 19:25b-30 Hazel

Jesus dies

The blue cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Scripture Reading # 6 John 19:31-42 Ron

The burial of Jesus' body

The purple cloth is removed. A time for silent prayer

Reflection

Offering of Music - Kelly "Deeply Hid Within Me" (Shaun Coburn)

Profession of Faith

Wait in faith now people of God.
Wait and if your faith runs low,
touch the hands of those around you
who sit and wait beside the tomb.

We will wait in faith, Jesus Christ.

Wait in faith over these next three days,
Wait in hope for the risen life of God
to visit the people in grace.
Wait in openness for gifts beyond imagining.
For this is the Christ, the Human One
whose love will never be defeated.

We will wait in hope. Amen

Postlude

The Old Rugged Cross - arr. M. Hayes

*You may leave when you choose. The music will continue
quietly until the last person is gone. The service will
continue on Easter Sunday.*

March 29th 2024



Good Friday

**Balzac Pastoral Charge
of the United Church of Canada
Friday March 29, 2024 Good Friday, 10:00 AM
Minister: Kelly Grittner, Candidate OM
Music Ministry: Lee Downan and Dr. Alex Shawn**

*This is an adaptation of a service written by **Susan Lukey and David Robertson**, High River U.C., High River, Alta. As found on www.gatherings.ca*