**Good Friday**

**Goodwood United Church**

[www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com](http://www.goodwoodunitedchurch.com)

Church phone: 905 868 5507

Minister: Rev. Lionel Ketola BA, M.Div.

Guest musician: Gabrielle Untermann

Friday April 15, 10:00 am

*Words of Welcome*

*Silence*

We Gather in the Shadow of the Cross Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12

See, my servant shall prosper;

**He will be lifted up and highly exalted.**Who would believe what we've heard and seen?

**Who would have thought God's saving power would look like this?**

The servant grew up before God—a scrawny seedling,   
a scrubby plant in a parched field.  
**He was looked down on and rejected, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand.**

**One look at him and people turned away.**We looked down on him,

**but it was our pains and brokenness that he carried**He was oppressed and afflicted

**By a perversion of justice he was taken away.   
Yet did anyone of his generation protest?**He was cut off from the land of the living;

He died without a thought for his own welfare,   
**They buried him with the wicked,**

**even though he'd never hurt a soul.**Out of that terrible travail of soul,

**He will see light.**Through what he experienced,

**God’s Righteous One shall make many righteous.**

**Hymn: VU # 145 v. 1 & 3 O Sacred Head**

***Opening Prayer***

May God be with you

**And also with you**

*Let us Pray:*

**Dear Jesus, our life and resurrection,**

**the tears you sowed in the sorrow of your passion**

**brought the earth to flower Easter morning.**

**Look lovingly on all of your creation.**

**Fill us with the depths of your love, so that,**

**after journeying with you in the sorrows of your passion,**

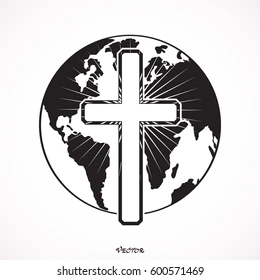
**we may live in the power of your risen life, now and always. Amen.**

***Hymn: My Song is Love Unknown VU 143***

Reflection: Rev. Lionel

**A Reading of the Passion According to Luke 23: 26-56**

**Hymn: Steal Away** *(Insert)*

**THE GOOD FRIDAY INTERCESSIONS FOR THE WORLD**

Dear people of God, Jesus lived among us so that all creation might know the fullness of God’s abundant life. Let us offer our prayers for all of creation and all people, according to their needs.

1. During this time of environmental crisis, let us pray for God’s creation. *Silence*

* *Newspaper headlines are read*

**All: Divine Artist, you delight in the wondrous web of creation. Open our hearts to both the destruction which we have inflicted upon creation, and to the hope that you hold for it. Help us to weep for fallen trees, to mourn for exterminated species, and to commit ourselves to the protection and preservation of all earth’s ecosystems, plants and creatures. Amen.**

1. Let us pray for the Church of Christ and it’s mission. *Silence*

* *Newspaper headlines are read*

**All: Loving God, you have called your church to proclaim good news in a broken and ever-changing world. May we follow the example of Jesus, who – kneeling at his disciples’ feet – washed them with tender care and compassion. Make us a servant church. May our own words and deeds be an equally credible witness to your love and justice. Amen.**

3. Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders. *Silence*

* *Newspaper headlines are read*

**All: Reconciling God, our world is divided and leaders often pursue self-interest. Reconcile nations that are struggling with conflict and war, especially the people of Ukraine. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy to foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Inspire leaders to follow your dream of justice and peace for all. Amen.**

4. Let us pray for all who suffer throughout our world. *Silence*

* *Newspaper headlines are read*

**All: Healing God, we pray for all who are lonely or ill; in doubt or in despair; all who struggle with violence, discrimination, displacement, and famine; all who are dying and those who watch beside them; and all who grieve. Enfold all who suffer in your wings of love, and fill them with the knowledge that even in the darkest shadows, you never abandon us. Amen.**

Into your hands, loving God, we commend all for whom we pray; trusting Jesus, who showed us your Mothering love and who taught us to pray:

***Sung Lord’s Prayer VU page 959***

**We Scatter Seeds of Hope at the Cross**

Jesus said: Very truly, I tell you,

unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies,

it remains just a single grain;

**but if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

Now is the time of letting go

**When the grain of wheat falls into the ground.**

We fear the falling, the losing

**God, I believe. Help my unbelief!**

And yet, in the soil, there is a mystery:

**The power of God’s life and love is stronger than death.**

God will not let the world’s injustice have the final word.

**Even in the face of the cross, we will persist …**

**We will scatter seeds of stubborn, faithful hope,**

**and deep commitment to our world.**

**Hymn: VU 144, Were You There**

* We come forward to sprinkle seeds of hope at the foot of the cross
* Silence for prayer
* We depart in silence

