

Ecumenical Good Friday Service

4.15.22 @ 7pm at Hope UMC (with South Haven UCC and Friendship MC)

Prelude - Rachel

Welcome - Andrew

Call to Worship

Alvis - Let us remember

Andrew - how the sky went dark.

Let us remember

how his mother was there.

Let us remember

how people mocked him.

Let us remember

how his friends fled.

Let us remember,

how in the midst of all that, Jesus still chose love.

Let us worship holy God.

Hymn – Rachel **When I survey the Wondrous Cross** UMH 298 v. 1 & 4

Guided Meditation - Alvis

A Service of Tenebrae

1. THE SHADOW OF GETHSEMANE

Scripture [Andrew will find readers]

Excerpts from Matthew 26:36-41; Mark 14:43-46

Scripture response [congregational on PP with Andrew leading]

Psalms 42:1-2 (NIV)

As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When can I go and meet with God?

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, there have been times when we, like Judas,
have betrayed the ones we love. Forgive us, we pray.

Song [Rachel]

- *Jesus, Remember Me* (x3)
 [UM Hymnal 488]
Jesus, Remember Me
 Type: Words and Music; First Line: Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom
 Language: English
 Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
 Tune: Jaques Berthier, © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Text: © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

2. THE SHADOW OF DENIAL

Scripture [Reader]

Matthew 26:69-75

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalms 42:3 (NIV)

My tears have been my food
 day and night,
 while people say to me all day long,
 "Where is your God?"

Song [Rachel]

- *Stay with Me* (x3)
 [The Faith We Sing 2198]
Stay with Me
 Type: Words and Music; First Line: Stay with me, remain here with me
 Language: English
 Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
 Tune: © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Text: © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, like Peter, we have been afraid and have denied the ones we love. Forgive us, we pray.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

3. THE SHADOW OF CONDEMNATION

Scripture [Reader]

Mark 15:1-5, 15; John 19:1-3

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalms 42:4 (NIV)

These things I remember
as I pour out my soul:
how I used to go to the house of God
under the protection of the Mighty One
with shouts of joy and praise
among the festive throng.

Song [Rachel]

• *Stay with Me* (x3)

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, like the chief priests, we have lost sight of the truth and accused the innocent unfairly. Forgive us, we pray.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

4. THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS**Scripture [Reader]**

John 19:6, 15-17

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalms 42:5 (NIV)

Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.

Song [Rachel]

• *Jesus, Remember Me* (x3)

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, like the crowd, we have been swept up in the current of condemnation. Forgive us for inflicting harm, we pray.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

5. THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION**Scripture [Reader]**

Luke 23:33-34

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalm 42:7-8 (NIV)

Deep calls to deep
 in the roar of your waterfalls;
all your waves and breakers
 have swept over me.

By day the Lord directs his love,
 at night his song is with me—
 a prayer to the God of my life.

Song [Rachel]

- *Were You There* (verses 1-4) [Public Domain]

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, deep in the shadows, we know we have been
part of your crucifixion, and have chosen death
over life in many ways. Forgive us, we pray.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

6. THE SHADOW OF GRACE**Scripture [Reader]**

Luke 23:39-43; John 19:25-27

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalm 42:9-10 (NIV)

I say to God my Rock,
 “Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I go about mourning,
 oppressed by the enemy?”
My bones suffer mortal agony
 as my foes taunt me,
saying to me all day long,
 “Where is your God?”

Song [Rachel]

- *Jesus, Remember Me* (x3)

Prayer [Alvis]

Lord, at the crucible moments in our lives, give us, like the thief, courage to face and speak the truth. And like Mary, may we stand with the ones we love, even as they suffer.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

7. THE SHADOW OF DEATH

Scripture [Reader]

Luke 23:44-46

Scripture response [Andrew/Congregation]

Psalms 42:11 (NIV)

Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God,
 for I will yet praise him,
 my Savior and my God.

Extinguish a candle. [Alvis]

Hymn - "Were you There" verse 5 only

Strip altar [Andrew, slamming the Bible shut]

Followed by 30 seconds of silence

Prayer for Illumination

God who asked for a drink,
God who was killed by the state,
God who offered love and grace even from the cross—
we are at a loss for words.
What do we do with this day?
The air is heavy.
Our hearts are heavy.
The suffering of this world feels particularly close,
spilling out all over us.
And yet, even in this space,
we know you are moving.
Even in this space,
we know that this is not the end.
Give us the heart to hear this story
and the courage to let it change us.
Gratefully we pray, amen.

Affirmation of Faith

Andrew - We believe that the crucifixion shows us the worst in humanity—

**Alvis - violence inflicted on the innocent,
shame poured out in excess,
mockery for the sake of mockery,
and abandonment of those we love.**

We believe that Jesus shows us the best in humanity—

**grace where grace is undeserved,
humility in the face of power,
justice in the face of oppression,
love that overcomes.**

So today, as one voice, we choose
the latter.

We choose

love.

We choose

grace.

We choose

one another.

We choose

to remember.

Let it be so.

Amen.

Depart in Silence