

United Methodist Churches of the Back Mountain Cluster

Good Friday Tenebrae Worship

The Seven Last Words of Jesus

April 7, 2023

(\* indicates please stand if you are able)

PRELUDE

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

By Mary McDonald  
Organ/Piano Duet

WORDS OF WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

OPENING PRAYER (in unison, by St. Anselm):

**O Father, most merciful, in the beginning you created us, and by the passion of your only Son you created us anew. Work in us now, both to will and to do what pleases you. Since we are weak and can do no good thing by ourselves, grant us your grace and heavenly blessing, that in whatever work we engage we may do all to your honor and glory. Keep us from sin and empower us daily to do good works, that as long as we live in the body we may always perform service to you. After our departure give us pardon of all our sins, and receive us to eternal life; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”  
Vs. 1-2

#297

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:32-34a

Pastor Carol Folk

*Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. +++ Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing.*

Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The first candle is extinguished)

Musical Response

“And No Bird Sang”

By Douglas Wagner  
Combined Choir

THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39-43

Rev. Jim Pall

*One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserved for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus,*

*remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”*

Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The second candle is extinguished)

Hymn of Response

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”  
Vs. 1 & 3

#301

THE THIRD WORD

John 19:25-27

Rev. Jon Buxton

*Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.*

Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The third candle is extinguished)

Musical Response

“In the Shadow of the Cross”

By Lee & Susan Dengler  
Combined Choir

THE FOURTH WORD

Matthew 27:45-46

Bill Bachman

*From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, Lema Sabathani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The fourth candle is extinguished)

Hymn of Response

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”  
Vs. 1 & 2

#286

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28

Pastor Carrie Granche

*After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.”*

Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The fifth candle is extinguished)

Hymn of Response

“What Wondrous Love Is This”  
Vs. 1 & 2

#292

THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:29-30

Rev. Laura Kyler

*A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

**Hymn of Response** Meditation (followed by prayer)  
(The sixth candle is extinguished)  
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #298  
Vs. 2-3

**THE SEVENTH WORD** Luke 23:45-46 Pastor Dave Walker  
(The sun's light failed and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

**Musical Response** Meditation (followed by prayer)  
"Were You There" Bells, Piano, & Voice  
(The seventh candle is extinguished)

**CLOSING PRAYER**  
*Feel free to stay and spend some time in quiet reflection.  
We ask that when you are ready to leave please dismiss in silence.*

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Thanks to all who participated in today's worship service. Special thanks to Shavertown United Methodist Church for hosting our Good Friday service.  
All of the passages cited above are from the New Revised Standard Version.

### Participants

#### Clergy:

Bill Bachman – Old Forge UMC & W. Pittston UMC  
Rev. Jon Buxton – Shavertown UMC  
Pastor Carol Folk – Huntsville UMC & Loyalville UMC  
Pastor Carrie Granche – Mt. Zion UMC and Orange UMC  
Rev. Jay Jones – Trucksville UMC  
Rev. Laura Kyler – Lehman-Idetown UMC  
Rev. Jim Pall – Maple Grove UMC  
Pastor Dave Walker – Dallas UMC & Alderson UMC

#### Musicians:

Dr. Steve Broskoske-Trucksville UMC  
Barbara Buxton – Shavertown UMC  
Caitlyn Dunn – Handbells Shavertown UMC  
Nancy Evans – Shavertown UMC  
Amy Cram-Kuiken-Trucksville UMC  
Combined Choirs of the Back Mountain Cluster

