

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5

## Good Friday April 7, 2023

# FIRST CHURCH

Congregational 1633-1636 United Church of Christ Garden and Mason Streets Cambridge, Massachusetts

#### WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE... Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

We're glad you are worshiping with us today! First Church is a vibrant, multi-generational, engaged, urban church. We care a lot about each other and what's happening in the world around us. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here. FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE CONGREGATIONAL **386 YEARS** ON THE WAY 1636 – 2022

### Good Friday, April 7, 2023

Leading Worship	Dan Smith, Senior Minister		
	Lexi Boudreaux, Transitional Minister		
	Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach		
	Carla Carbajal, Ministerial Intern		
	Ahmaad Edmund, Ministerial Intern		
	Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts		
	Peter Sykes, Music Director		
	Lee Prouty, tech support		
<b>Bulletin Cover Image</b>	Psalm 30 collage by Audrey Bellinger		
	This and other Psalm collages can be viewed in a <u>digital gallery</u> .		

#### GATHERING

VOLUNTARY	O Mensch, bewein dein' Sünde gross	J. S. Bach

#### \*GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

- L: Siblings in Christ, peace to you from our merciful God.
- C: Peace to you and to this beautiful, broken world.
- L: On this night of lament, we come to remember Jesus' suffering, his death upon a cross.
- C: On this night of sorrow, we come to remember Jesus' love for us.
- L: God is with us now in our pain, grieving the death of his only Son.
- C: God is with us in our endless tears, grieving the suffering of all creation.
- L: Then let us pray on this holy night, remembering that even as we cry in pain, we draw hope from God's presence and unconditional love.

#### SILENCE AND CANDLELIGHTING

In this moment of silence, you are welcome to come to the altar to light a candle and join us in worship and in song

\*HYMN 200

Were You There?

#### SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Beloved, as we approach our time of contemplation, we will be going through Jesus' last seven words before the death of Jesus Christ. As we hear his last words, we will also be sharing words of wisdom from our Truth Tellers whose portraits and presence are in our very own building. Friends, these are witnesses whose words never die; however, they talked about death and injustice. In that same spirit of witness and grief, let us hear these words.

JESUS TALKS WITH Reading Truth Teller Silence		Ahmaad Edmund
JESUS TALKS TO TH Reading Truth Teller Silence		Kate Layzer
JESUS TALKS WITH Reading Truth Teller Silence	John 19:26–27	Carla Carbajal
	O GOD Matthew 27:46 Bryan Stevenson	Dan Smith
JESUS THIRSTS Reading Truth Teller Silence	John 19:28 Ida B. Wells	Lexi Boudreaux
JESUS TAKES A FIN Reading Truth Teller Silence	John 19:30	Sarah Higginbotham
*You are invited to stand.		

#### JESUS RAISED HIS VOICE

Reading Luke 23:46 Truth Teller Harriet A. Jacobs Silence

\*HYMN 201

They Crucified My Lord

#### THE GOOD NEWS OF CONSOLATION

#### **RESPONSIVE READING**

Romans 8: 31-39

- L: What then should we say about our present suffering?
- C: If God is for us, who can be against us?
- L: If God did not withhold the only beloved Son, but gave him up for us all, will God not give us everything else as well?
- C: Even now, Christ Jesus, who died, yes, and who was raised from the dead, is at the right hand of God, interceding for us!
- L: Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
- C: Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- L: No, I tell you. In all these things we are more than conquerors, through Christ who loved us.
- All: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
- \*HYMN 183

What Wondrous Love Is This

#### \*BLESSING

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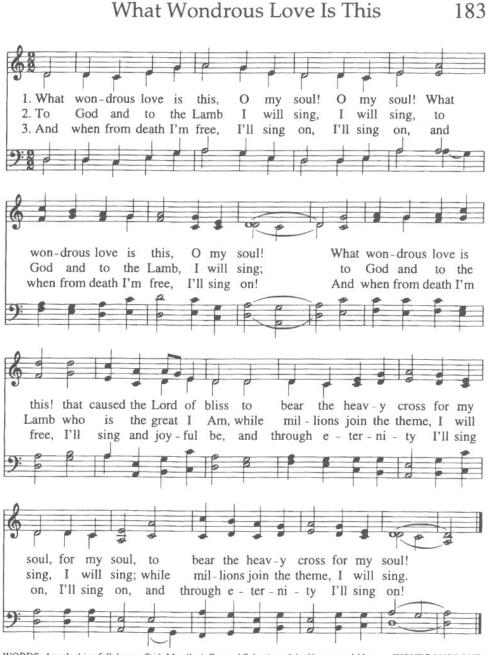
#### PEACE HYMN



**MIDDLE HYMN** 



#### **CLOSING HYMN**



 WORDS: Appalachian folk hymn, Stith Mead's A General Selection of the Newest and Most Admired Hymns and Spiritual Songs Now in Use, 1811, alt.
MUSIC: Appalachian folk hymn, Walker's Southern Harmony, c. 1835; harm. FCC, 1997