

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Noon | April 7, 2023

St. Paul United Methodist Church
2000 Douglass Blvd, Louisville, KY



GATHERING MUSIC

Dr. Jim McFarland

GREETING

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.

That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we, who glory in this death for our salvation, may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 53: 3-12

*HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

No. 626

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SERMON

Words from the Cross

Rev. R. Darren Brandon

HOLY COMMUNION

United Methodists practice an Open Table. All are welcome to come and receive. "Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the cup and the bread. Come to the table of mercy and your soul will be fed."

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

*HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

No. 292

*BENEDICTION

May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Dr. Jim McFarland

*Please stand as you are able

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WORDS FROM THE CROSS

1. Father, forgive them. Luke 23:26, 33-34
Jesus extends grace to those who have denied, betrayed, and hurt him. Take a moment and pray for those who have wronged you.

2. Today you will be with me in Paradise. Luke 23:32, 35-43
Even in his agony, Jesus is reaching out to others with a promise. In what promise of scripture do you find encouragement?

3. Behold your son. Behold your mother. John 19:25-27
Jesus calls us to care for one another. Who do you need to reach out to today?

4. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Mark 15:29-36
Jesus, anguished and feeling abandoned, identifies with us in our struggles. In his darkest moment, Jesus was praying and seeking God. He models for us how to face discouragement. What prayer or way of seeking God do you find helpful in this season?

5. I thirst. John 19:28-29
Jesus experiences the thirst of a dying man. He also expresses the thirst for God's presence. For what are you thirsty?

6. It is finished. John 19:30a
Jesus has completed the mission to which he was called. He was faithful to the end and resisted those things which were not of God. He gave his life as a witness to love. How have you been faithful to the gifts God has given you? To your calling?

7. Into Your hands I commit my spirit. Luke 23:44-47
His mother may have taught him these very words as a prayer. It is an invitation to live in confidence and hope knowing God holds the future. As you look ahead, how do you need to trust God?