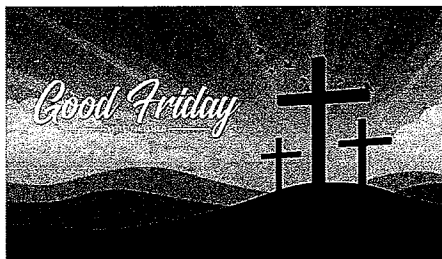


KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

March 29, 2024
Good Friday Service



Interim Minister: The Reverend Dr. David Thompson

Music Director: Suzanne Strahan

Treasurer: Shannon Archer

142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario. N5A 3H2

519-271-0373 knoxs@wightman.ca CCLI #2405391

Prelude

Call to Worship

All: Jesus for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross and the grave.

Prayer of Approach (Together):

We come to the Day in the Church Year when we remember that Jesus was crucified. This is a day of sadness for us who deeply identify with the Lord Christ. On that first Good Friday it was a day of weeping and great sadness and feelings that there was no hope...Mary was there as were the disciples who had seen the wonder of Jesus life given for others. Why they asked had it come to this? Historically we stand there with them, with solemn identification. We have come to worship, humbled by God's love for us. Amen.

HYMN: #238 Beneath the Cross of Jesus Verses 1 and 2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together)

God of love and mercy,
You sent Jesus into the world
so that we might have life and have it abundantly.
Yet our lives are often less than ideal.
Some of us have filled the world with violence and terror
because we do not trust the way of compassion and
service. In the face of uncertainty and trouble,
we give up on You and one another and believe in violence
as some kind of solution,
But that always leaves us bankrupt, empty lost and forlorn.
We have not trusted the power of Your love.
Forgive us for thinking that Love is not a powerful enough
response. Have mercy on us O God of Great Mercy
for the sake of Christ, Saviour and Lord. Amen

Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)

**What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship?
Distress? Peril or sword?**

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor
things present nor things to come can separate us from
the love of God in Christ Jesus. No matter what is
happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's
deep love will never let us go.

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: Let the Peace of Christ be with you!

Congregation: And also, with you.

(Please turn and greet one another)

Choir Anthem

HYMN: #239 O Sacred head Verses 1-3

SCRIPTURE READING: St. Mark 15: 29-47

Bev and Peter Dougall

SERMON: Meditation

OFFERTORY HYMN #79 Offering is brought forward.
The offering can be placed in the offering plates at the back of the church before or during the service, or at the front after the service.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION ((together) **God of courage and compassion, we bring our gifts to you in Jesus' name. This year the world badly needs both his courage and compassion. Bless our gifts so that they bring hope to others in these challenging times. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Intercession

(Minister and Congregation together):

Let us pray for those who are deprived and live in poverty, for those who are despairing and feel themselves beyond help, and for those who are in suffering physically, mentally, spiritually, or socially and as yet see no hope.

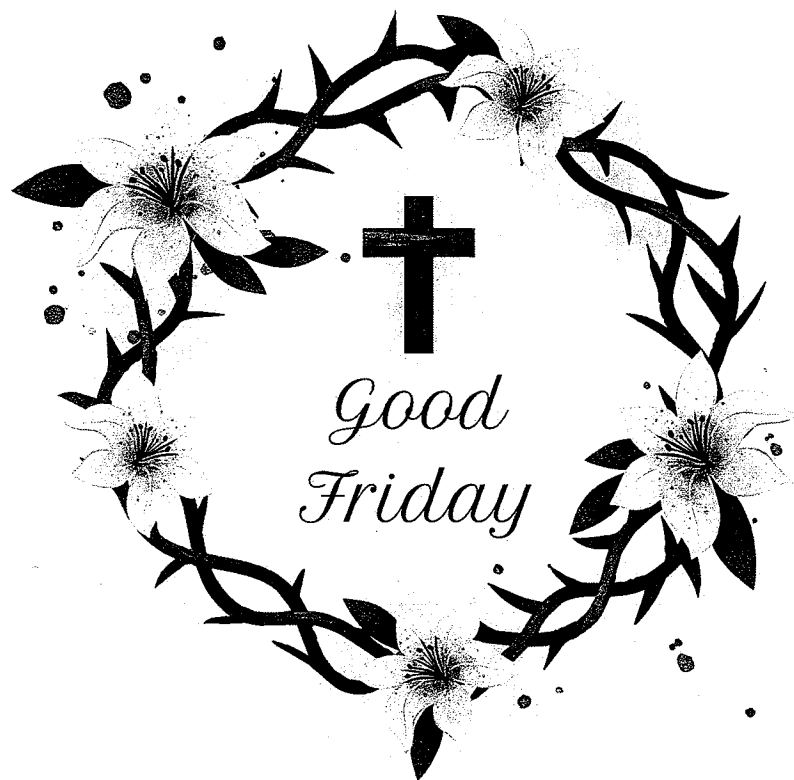
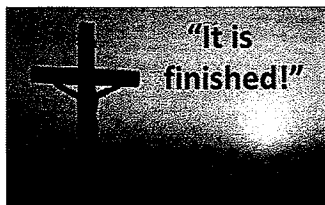
And let us pray for those who face death alone, especially those who do not know the hope of life beyond death.....

[Silence]

Renew our hope for the future that You will bring us and engage our desire to live out the courage and compassion of Christ our Lord. Amen

HYMN: #242 What wondrous love is this? Verses 1 and 2

Benediction



**Join us for our Easter Sunday Service
March 31, 2023 at 10:30am**