Good Friday Service

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

 \*Call to Worship Rev. Sarah Locke

Come, let us gather again in the shadow
of the Cross of Christ.
**We gather to remember the overwhelming evidence**
**of Love’s ultimate sacrifice.**
Who would have guessed that the height and depth,
the length and width of God’s love might look like this:
a forsaken savior on a cross?
**Certainly not us. Not us, who are too often lost**
**amid the world’s distractions and responsibilities.**
**Not us, for whom such love was offered without cost.**
Let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ
and commit ourselves to remember the price paid.
Let us live our lives in a way that indicates why
this Friday is called “Good.”
**Thanks be to God, who opened the gates of heaven,**
**that we might have the faith, hope, and love,**
**witnessed in Christ’s sacrifice for our salvation.**

**\*Opening Hymn No. 298**

***“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”***

Opening Prayer

The 1st Reading Luke 22: 29-46 Susan McKee

(*First Light is Extinguished)*

 The 2nd Reading Mark 14: 43-52 E. T. White

 *(Second Light is Extinguished)*

**\*Hymn “What Wondrous Love Is This” No. 292**

 Verses 1-2

The 3rd Reading Mark 14: 51-72 Joan Walton

 (Third Light is Extinguished)

The 4th Reading Mark 15: 1-5 Margaret Norfleet

 (Fourth Light is Extinguished)

**\*Hymn “What Wondrous Love Is This” No. 292**

 Verses 3-4

The 5th Reading Mark 15: 6-15 Charles Vertigan

 (Fifth Light is Extingusihed)

The 6th Reading Marck 15: 16-20 Cheryl Cooper

(Sixth Light is Extinguished)

**\*Hymn “*Were You There”* No. 288**

 Verses 1-3

The 7th Reading Mark 15: 21-32 Kim Schorr

 (Seventh Light is Extinguished)

The 8th Reading Mark 15: 33-37 Meredith Steadman

 (Eight Light is Extinguished)

**\*Hymn ‘Were You There” No. 288**

 Verses 4-5

 Stripping of the Altar

The 9th Reading Mark 15: 38-39 Cindy Watts (Christ Candle is Extinguished)

**\***Special Music Rev. Sarah Locke & Glenda Brown

***How Deep the Father’s Love for Us***

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Benediction

Please join us on Easter Sunday, March 31st, for:

Sunrise Service at 6:30 am

Morning Worship at 10:30 am followed by Easter Egg Hunt

The Hickory Easter Service at 5 pm

Family Dinner at 6 pm (Favorite Casseroles)

 **Photo Credit: Rev. Sarah Payne**

 **Hickory UMC Good Friday Service**

**Service of Darkness**

 **March 29th, 2024**