

Ecumenical Good Friday Service
April 3, 2026

Those who are able may stand where marked ().*

Welcome and Announcements *Mary Menzies*

Prelude

Invocation

* Hymn #320 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” *Celebration Hymnal*

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 53:1-3 *Rev. Lyn Winter*

Reflection: Why Are We Drawn to Him?

Scripture Reading: John 18:4-8 *Deb Alberini*

Reflection: Who Are You Looking For?

Responsive Reading: Psalm 22 (see insert) *Mary Menzies*

*Hymn #321 “When I Survey That Wondrous Cross”
Celebration Hymnal

Scripture Reading: John 18:28-30 *John Vail*

Reflection: What Charges Do You Bring to This Man?

Scripture Reading: John 18:33-34 *Robert Owen Williams*

Reflection: Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus replies: Do you ask this on your own, or did
others tell you about me?

Scripture Reading: John 18:37b-38a *Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz*

Reflection: What is Truth?

Anthem: “The Carpenter” *Martin*

Scripture Reading: John 19:13-16 *Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz*

Reflection: Shall I Crucify Your King?

*Hymn #315 (Verses 1-3) “Were You There?” *Celebration Hymnal*

Scripture Reading: John 19:28-30 *Rev. Lyn Winter*

Reflection: It is finished.....Is it Finished?

Stripping of the altar...in silence *Emily LaFlam*

Finally, we ask that you exit the sanctuary in silence

We thank you all for coming and thank you to our participants
for their reflections. Thank you also for those offering such
beautiful music for this service.

Participants:

First Congregational Church: Mary Menzies, Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz, Emily LaFlam

Shared Ministry, Lisbon: Rev. Lyn Winter

Franconia Community Church: Robert Owen Williams, John Vail

First United Methodist Church: Deb Alberini

Music: Dottie Morton, First Congregational Church

Announcements / Upcoming Events

**April 5th - All are invited to Easter Sunrise Service
at The Sunset Hill House
in Sugar Hill - 6:15 AM**

**A Holy Saturday Retreat – Saturday, April 4, 10-12 in the Ladies' Parlor,
First Congregational Church.**

The Saturday after Good Friday and before Easter Sunday is a particularly odd day. A day that it seems in a story full of activity that nothing happens. It's a day with a wonderful invitation to put down our "doing" and pay more attention to the quiet work or way of what is unfolding when it seems nothing is. Tomorrow on Saturday, April 4, Rev. Veronika Travis will offer a Holy Saturday retreat. Veronika will offer short reflections on the scripture texts for the day and an opportunity for us to engage in some personal reflection on the texts and invitation of this day.

You might like to bring – a journal and writing or drawing implements; Knitting, crocheting or other "fidget items" you may want during the talks; comfy shoes and jackets if you choose to go for a short walk; any other Spirit led activity they enjoy (coloring books, drawing paper, prayer beads, a favorite Bible for lection divina, etc.).

Carrying his own cross, Jesus went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

John 19:17-18

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RESPONSIVE READING

Select verses from Psalm 22

Leader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
so far from my cries of anguish?

**People: My God, I cry out by day, but you do not
answer, by night, but I find no rest.**

Leader: Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the
one Israel praises.

**People: In you our ancestors put their trust;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**

Leader: I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.

**People: My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted within me.**

Leader: My mouth is dried up like a potsherd
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.

**People: Dogs surround me,
a pack of villains encircles me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.**

Leader: All my bones are on display;
people stare and gloat over me.

**People: They divide my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment.**

Leader: Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.

**People: They will proclaim his righteousness
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!**

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