

# Good Friday



“...and after twisting some thorns  
into a crown, they put it on his head.”  
~Matthew 27:39

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 15, 2022

12:00 noon

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ  
2010 De Soto Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
305.448.7421/www.gablesucc.org

*\*Please stand as you are able  
Translations are in parenthesis*

### MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Dr. Ron Morgan

### WELCOME

Laurinda Hafner

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Yosladis Izquierdo-Yglesias, Gabriel Moghani, Lisa LeSueur; leaders

One: Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One.

**Many: The love of Jesus refused compromise with the powerful.**

One: El amor nos llama, el amor del crucificado nos llama.

**Many: The love of Jesus took the tough but faithful road.**

One: Die Liebe ruft uns hier, die Liebe des Gekreuzigten.

**Many: The love of Jesus endured the rejection of his friends.**

One: Love calls us here, the love of the Crucified One.

**Many: We long for a safe and sacred space to sit with our grief and our questions.**

One: Jesus Christ, holy friend, we know that you are here with us.

**Many: May we be here with you.**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

- (1) When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.
- (2) See from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- (3) Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## THE TRIAL

*Matthew 26:47-50, 11-23*

in English

Read by Aaron Lauer and Megan Smith

While Jesus was speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward.

At last, two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’” The high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?” But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Sovereign One seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, “Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again, he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

## **HYMN OF CONFESSION**

Sung in English and Spanish

*Si Fui Motivo de Dolor, Oh Dios*

(1) If I have been the source of pain, O God;  
if to the weak I have refused my strength;  
if, in rebellion, I have strayed away.  
Forgive me, God.

*Continued...*

(2) Si vana y fútil mi palabra fue;  
si al que sufría en su dolor dejé;  
no me condenes, tú, por mi maldad,  
¡perdón, oh Dios!

*(If I have spoken words of cruelty, if I have left some suffering unrelieved,  
condemn not my insensitivity, forgive me, God.)*

(3) If I've insisted on a peaceful life,  
far from the struggles that the gospel brings,  
when you prefer to guide me to the strife,  
forgive me, God.

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Lisa LeSueur, leader

One: When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work  
of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God.  
Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession  
together...

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**We confess to You, O God,  
that we have betrayed and denied You,  
forgotten and doubted You.**

**When our faith is tested, we wonder where You are.  
When we see injustice in the world, we often stand by,  
we turn our backs; we ignore the cries of others.**

**We confess that again and again we deny You  
and betray You with our silence  
when we fail to proclaim Your Good News,  
when we fail to live out Your teachings  
and love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**Help us to remember Your sacrifice, Your love,  
and to know Your forgiveness.**

**In the name of the One who lived, who was crucified,  
and who lives again, we pray. Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Yosladis Izquierdo-Yglesias, Gabriel Moghani, Lisa LeSueur; leaders

One: O God erschaffe uns mit reinem Herzen und mache unseren Geist rein. Heile uns, denn wir tragen Deine Hoffnung.

*(Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew right and wholesome spirits within us. Restore us to the joy of your salvation, for it is in you that we place our hope.)*

One: He venido para que tengas vida y con abundancia. Te doy tesoros, los cuales no son para que los guardes y proteges, sino para que los utilices por el bien, la esperanza, sanidad y restauración del prójimo.

*(I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly. I have given to you treasures, which are not to be collected, stored, and locked up - they are gifts to be used for others, for hope, healing, restoration.)*

One: By love we are liberated from the pain of our pasts. Freed to live into the fullness of our humanity. Remember that the power to forgive is yours. In the name of God our Creator, Christ our Liberator, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter: be all that you were created to be!

**ALL: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

## SUNG RESPONSE

Receive, O God, this ardent word of prayer,  
and free me from temptation's subtle snare,  
with tender patience, lead me to your care.

Amen. Amen.

## THE CRUCIFIXION

*Matthew 27: 1-10*

in Spanish

Read by Yosladis Izquierdo-Yglesias

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.' But they said, 'What is that to us? See to it yourself.' Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.

*Matthew 27: 11-23*

in English

Read by Aaron Lauer

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you a King?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.

Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time, they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas.

So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.'

Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

‘Which of the two do you want me to release for you?’ And they said, ‘Barabbas.’

Pilate said to them, ‘Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?’ All of them said, ‘Let him be crucified!’ Then he asked, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Let him be crucified!’

## **CHORAL RESPONSE**

*If It Be Your Will*  
Anthony Cabrera, vocalist

Leonard Cohen

## **THE STORY CONTINUES**

*Matthew 27: 24-31*  
Gabriel Moghani, reader

in German

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.’ Then the people as a whole answered, ‘His blood be on us and on our children!’ So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, ‘Hail, King!’ They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

## **REFLECTION**

*Crown of Thorns*  
Megan Smith

**HYMN**

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded* German and English  
*You may remain seated for the hymn.*

(1) O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden, voll Schmerz und voller Hohn,  
O Haupt, zum Spott gebunden mit einer Dornenkron;  
O Haupt, sonst schön gezieret  
Mit höchster Ehr' und Zier,  
Jetzt aber höchst schimpfiet: Gegrüßet sei'st du mir!

*(O Sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down.  
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, your only crown,  
How pale you are with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!  
How does your visage languish which once was bright as morn!)*

(2) What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest friend;  
For this your dying sorrow, your pity without end?  
May I by yours forever; and though my days be few,  
O Savior, let me never outlive my love for you!

**READING**

*Matthew 27: 32-66*  
Aaron Lauer, reader

in English

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.'

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is a King; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in

him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son." The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

**THE AGONY OF DEATH** *Matthew 27:45-50*

in English

Lisa LeSueur, reader

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

**RESPONSE**

*Cross Cry*

Martin

Vocal Quartet; Mark Hart, soloist

**PRAYER**

Laurinda Hafner

**\*HYMN**

*Were You There?*

*As we sing you are invited to join in the processional as it passes your pew. Our service will conclude outside at the cross.*

*For those with us online, thank you for sharing in this service today.*

*We now await the good news of Easter...*

(1) Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

(2) Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

(3) Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

**\*DRAPING THE CROSS**

**\*BENEDICTION**

Laurinda Hafner

*Please Depart in Silence*



**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Rev. Yosladis Izquierdo-Yglesias, Pastor of the Spanish Language Church  
Gabriel Moghani, Representative of the German Language Church

Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

Rev. Megan Smith

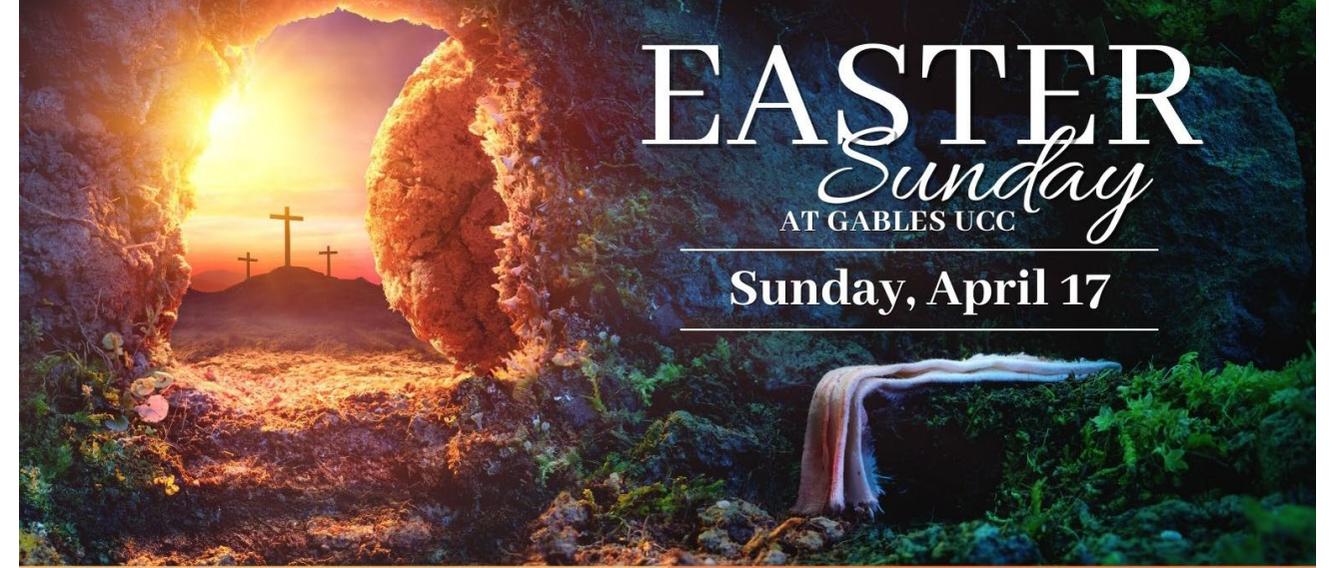
Rev. Aaron Lauer

Rev. Lisa LeSueur

Dr. Ron Morgan, Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Charmyn Kirton, Anthony Cabrera,  
Mark Hart, and Jasmine Williams; vocalists

***No matter who you are or where you are on your life journey,  
you are welcome in this beloved community.***



# EASTER

*Sunday*  
AT GABLES UCC

**Sunday, April 17**

## **OUTDOOR EASTER WORSHIP** **9:00 a.m. on the Columbus Green**

On this most festive day we celebrate the wonder of infinite possibility, of unquenched hope, and of eternal resurrection as we gather outdoors in the beauty of South Florida's tropical paradise. This is a service that will touch all ages.

Immediately following the service, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for children, a special reception for youth, and mimosas and Florida OJ for adults. Be sure to take your annual Easter photo at the flowering Easter cross.

## **SPANISH LANGUAGE** **EASTER WORSHIP**

**10:00 a.m. in the Chapel**

¡La Pascua en Coral Gables UCC en el Servicio Hispano, es un momento alegre para toda la familia! Celebraremos la libertad que Jesús nos concedió. Este es un momento increíble para compartir las buenas nuevas de Jesús en nuestra comunidad, en nuestro hogar y en esta congregación. ¡Nos gustaría esta oportunidad de darle la bienvenida al Servicio en Español mientras celebramos a nuestro Señor y Salvador Resucitado, Jesucristo!

## **EASTER FESTIVAL OF WORSHIP** **11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Online**

The "Alleluia" reappears defiantly and meaningfully as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with full and grateful hearts. Bring your neighbors, friends, and family for a stunning service filled with resurrection joy through festive music, inspiring words, and thoughtful prayers.

## **GERMAN LANGUAGE** **EASTER WORSHIP**

**3:00 p.m. in the Chapel and Online**

Die Deutsche Christliche Gemeinde in Miami lädt alle herzlich ein, in diesem Familiengottesdienst mit Abendmahl das älteste und wichtigste Fest im Kirchenjahr gemeinsam zu feiern: Ostern, das Fest der Auferstehung Christi!