

**ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2021
HOLY WEEK SERVICE**

*Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming
and Inclusive Community*

'Holy Vessels, a season of recovery'

"Healed and Still Healing"

Welcome

Opening Holy Week Video

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come

Lighting the Holy Week Candles and Christ Candle

Entrance into Worship

Hymn (VU # 135)

The goodness of this Friday

The goodness of this Friday,
is tempered with deep pain,
an evil plan, an act of hate, a vibrant life was slain.
A human heart that shared a dream,
a vision for his time;
to see the world a loving place was Jesus' only crime.

The Journey to the Cross begins.....

Reading: The Plot to Kill Jesus

Matthew 26: 1-5

Prayer of Confession - Holy Week Video

Sung Response

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One

Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

**The First Anointing Holy Week Video – Extravagant Love
Jesus is Anointed - Matthew 26: 6-13**

**The Second Anointing Holy Week Video - Called to Serve
Preparation for the Feast - Matthew 26: 16-19
Anointing Ritual**

Hymn

Christ, Let Us Come with You vs. 1 VU #458

Christ, let us come to you
to the upper room where the feast is laid,
to the bread and wine
where our peace is made:
Christ, let us come with you.

Reading: The Supper

Matthew 26: 20-29

Hymn after the Meal

Christ, Let Us Come with You vs. 4 VU #458

Christ of the open hands,
you have brought us close
to be loved and fed,
you have touched our life,
now you walk ahead:
Christ, let us come with you!

Reading: Predictions

Matthew 26: 30-35

I invite you to repeat after me:

Leader: I will never desert you

***People:* I will never desert you**

I will never deny you

I will never deny you

I will never desert you
I will never desert you
I will never deny you
I will never deny you

I will never desert you
I will never desert you
I will never deny you
I will never deny you

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Reading: Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
Matthew 26: 36-41

Prayers in the Night (Time for Personal Reflection)

Anthem Video
Make us Holy, Make us Whole

Reading: Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
Matthew 26: 42-56

Sung Response
Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Reading: Jesus before the High Priest

Matthew 26: 57-68

Sung Response

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Reading: Peter's Denial of Jesus

Matthew 26: 69-75

Sung Response

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Reading: Jesus is Sentenced

Matthew 27: 15-26

Prayers of the People (verses in BOLD are sung)

Lament for a Broken World
(Tune #602) (Words by Anne Briggs)
We lay our broken world
In sorrow at your feet,
Haunted by hunger, war and fear,
Oppressed by power and hate.

**Where human life seems less
That profit, might and pride,
Though to unite us all in you
You lived and loved and died.**

We bring our broken towns,
Our neighbours hurt and bruised;
You show us how old pain and wounds
For new life can be used.

**We bring our broken hopes
For lives of dignity;
Workless and overworked you love
And call us to be free.**

We bring our broken loves,
Friends parted, families torn;
Then in your life and death we see
That love must be reborn.

**We bring our broken selves,
Confused and closed and tired;
Then through your gift of healing grace
New purpose is inspired.**

**O Spirit, on us breathe,
With life and strength anew;
Find in us love, and hope and trust,
And lift us up to you.**

Reading: Jesus is Crucified

**Extinguishing the Holy Week Candles
And Jesus' last words**

Musical Response

Death of the Christ – Good Friday
From the “Holy Week Piano Suite” Chuck Bell

The Third Anointing Holy Week Video – Burying the Past

Reading: The Burial of Jesus

Matthew 27: 55-61

PRAYER

O Holy Presence, Light of Hope, Protector of Hearts:

sealed in the disturbing darkness of despair,
**Be with us in the darkness of these hours
as we sit in the shadow of the cross.**

Our hearts contract, and wither.

**In these moments together, we have recognized the
pain embedded in the reality of death and the
brokenness of the world. Yet we believe that the
power of goodness is stronger than the force of evil
and that the healing of love is stronger than the
sting of hate.**

The Christ light remains lit because we know, "Life must
win!" and that love lives on.

**It is this never-failing hope in the power of love
that makes this Friday good.**

**As we wait through Holy Saturday
to celebration the birth of new life of Easter,
we leave assured that we are Vessels, Holy and Whole
with love engraved on our hearts. Amen.**

Benediction

*[In Sanctuary people leave in silence
At home sit for a time in silence]*

***People can go to this link and add a prayer for those
affected by the pandemic: www.covidprayers.org***

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