

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
6903 Blantyre Road, Warrenton, VA 20187
(540) 347-4874; www.bethelumc.com

LIVING OUR FAITH & SHARING GOD'S LOVE



April 18, 2025
GOOD FRIDAY
7:00 P.M.

In-person Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion offered 1st & 3rd Sundays
Live stream Worship Service on our website
View previous Worship Services on our website

Pastor: Rev. Nadeem Khokhar (540) 347-4874 or nkhokhar@bethelumc.com
Music Director: Pat Martin pat88piano@gmail.com
Liturgist: Bethany VonTomaszewski

PRELUDE

GATHERING WORDS

For us, he was despised, hated, unrecognizable and ridiculed.

For us, he was wounded that we may be whole and healed.

For us, he followed like a gentle lamb to be slaughtered in silence.

For us, he poured out himself to fill those who thirst.

For Christ, we mourn.

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Liturgist: He was despised and rejected by others, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

People: But it was his punishment that made us whole, his bruises that healed us. And we give thanks.

Liturgist: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted. Yet, he did not open his mouth.

People: But it was through him that God's will was made to prosper. It was because of his anguish that we can see light – and we give thanks.

Liturgist: He is our high priest, touched by our infirmities, suffering as we have suffered.

People: He is our living example that God's ways are not our ways. He is the stone that the builders rejected that became the head cornerstone. He is the last that became first. Through him we are challenged to live in a new way, to love in a new way, to lead in a new way – and for this, we give thanks.

*HYMN “*Go to Dark Gethsemane*” UMH 290, vs. 1-3

PRAYER

All merciful One, God of infinite love and compassion, though we have strayed, you have never abandoned us. In this season of repentance, we come confessing our sins and reaching out for the healing power of your forgiveness. Through Christ our Lord, give us renewed and truthful hearts that will follow you in all of our ways.

¹ Melinda Contreras-Byrd, “Good Friday,” in *The Abingdon Women’s Preaching Annual, Series 2, Year C*, Compiled and Edited by Leonora Tubbs Tisdale (Abingdon, 2000), 96-97.

First Word: Luke 23:34

Brett Hahne

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”

Second Word: Luke 23:43

Ted Zyla

“Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Jesus, Remember Me”

Choir

Third Word: John 19:26-27

Rosanne Williamson

"Jesus said to his mother: "Woman, this is your son." Then he said to the disciple: "This is your mother."

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Mary, Did You Know?”

Piano

Fourth Word: Mark 15:34

Cathy Carayas

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Fifth Word: John 19:28

Karla Yocum

"I thirst."

HYMN

“Were You There?” UMH 288, vs. 1-4

Sixth Word: John 19:30

Rev. John Chadsey

“It is finished.”

Seventh Word: Luke 23:46

Rev. Nadeem Khokhar

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

HYMN

“O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done” UMH 287

SILENCE

PARDON AND SALVATION

***CALL TO CONFESSION²:**

Liturgist: Judas, slave of jealousy, where are you?

People: I am here.

Liturgist: Peter, slave of fear, where are you?

People: I am here.

Liturgist: Thomas, slave of doubt, where are you?

People: I am here.

Liturgist: Men and women of Jerusalem, enslaved to mob rule, where are you?

People: I am here.

Liturgist: Pilate, slave of expediency, where are you?

People: I am here.

Liturgist: The story of Christ's passion and death mirrors for us much of our own weakness and sin. We all come here as men and women who have missed the mark and who are alienated from God and our neighbor near and far. Let us join together in the prayer of confession

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION³**

Yes, dear God, it is true. We are not worthy of your love. We promise to be faithful, but we fall away; we forsake you; we flee from you; we betray you; we deny you; we watch from afar; we don't tell anyone that your reign is at hand; we are afraid. Change us, we pray. Amen

GOSPEL READING

John 19:31-42

Matt Gibson

DEPART IN SILENCE

Please join us on Easter morning, Sunday, April 20

Sunrise worship service

6:30 a.m.

Easter service

10:00 a.m.

*Please stand as you are comfortable

² Richard N. Eick, in *Flames of the Spirit*, edited by Ruth C. Duck (Pilgrim Press, 1984), 37.

³ Mary Lois Stansbury, in *Flames of the Spirit*, edited by Ruth C. Duck (Pilgrim Press, 1984), 38.