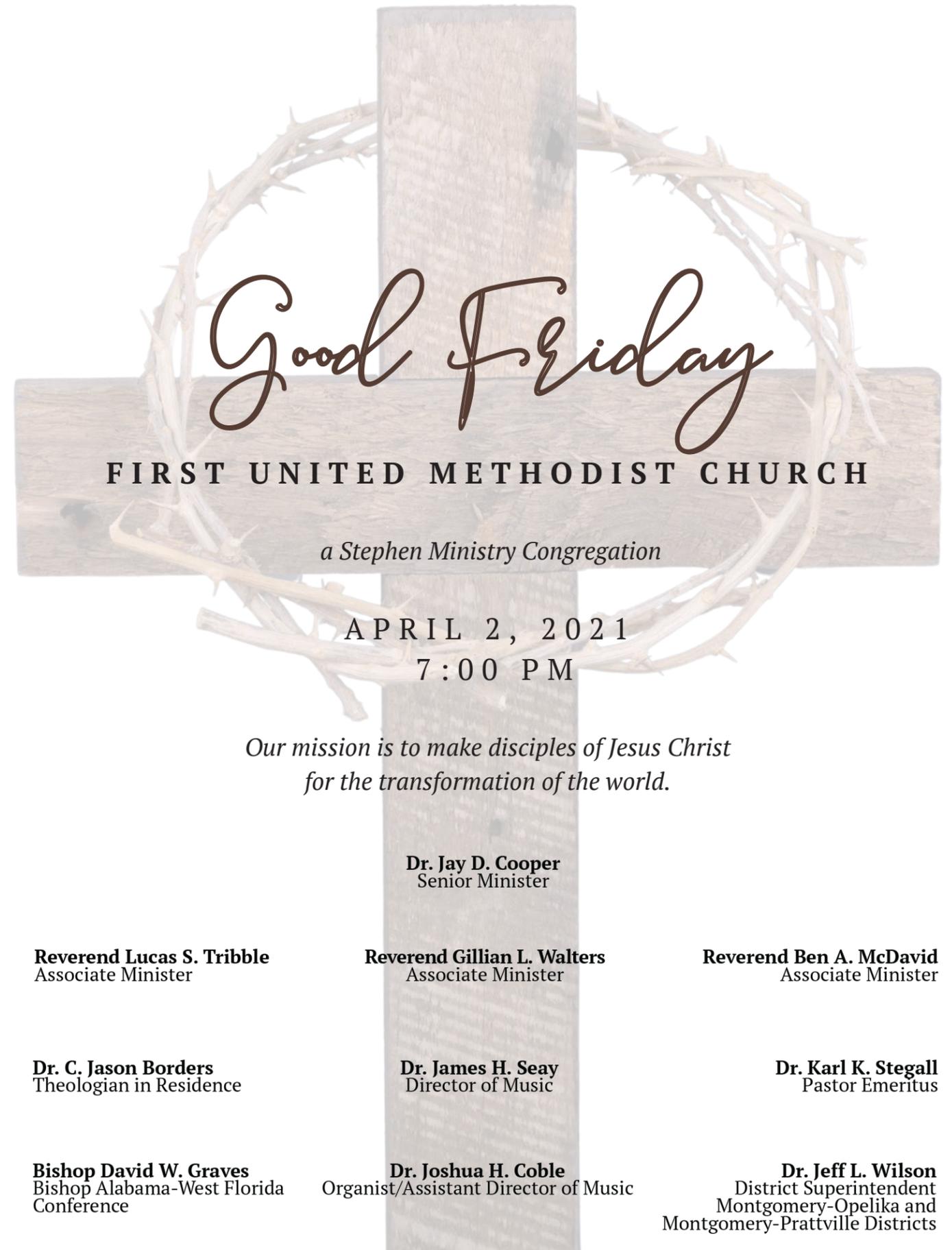


Services based on the Seven Last Words of Jesus from the cross are traditionally developed from harmonies of the Gospel passion narratives. Also known as the Devotion of the Three Hours, from noon on Friday until 3:00 p.m., to remember Christ's hours on the cross, it was first conducted by a Jesuit priest in Peru in the eighteenth century as a service of scripture readings with prayers and hymns interspersed. Over the years, it has become popular in Protestant circles in England and North America.



Good Friday

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

a Stephen Ministry Congregation

APRIL 2, 2021
7:00 PM

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

Dr. Jay D. Cooper
Senior Minister

Reverend Lucas S. Tribble
Associate Minister

Reverend Gillian L. Walters
Associate Minister

Reverend Ben A. McDavid
Associate Minister

Dr. C. Jason Borders
Theologian in Residence

Dr. James H. Seay
Director of Music

Dr. Karl K. Stegall
Pastor Emeritus

Bishop David W. Graves
Bishop Alabama-West Florida
Conference

Dr. Joshua H. Coble
Organist/Assistant Director of Music

Dr. Jeff L. Wilson
District Superintendent
Montgomery-Opelika and
Montgomery-Prattville Districts

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

April 2, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Liturgical Color: Purple

Words of Welcome

Dr. Jay D. Cooper

The Tenebrae Service is one of the oldest traditions of the Christian Church in the Holy Week celebration. From the Latin word meaning shadows, Tenebrae presents the story of Jesus' Passion, and as the candles are extinguished the sanctuary is darkened to dramatize the death of our Lord. The center altar candle is the Christ candle. The seven black candles represent the Seven Last Words of Jesus.

Prelude

Adagio from Sonata No. 1 in G Minor, BWV 1001

J.S. Bach

Yu Wang, Violin

Chiming of the Trinity

The three chimes signify the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Processional Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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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. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

3. 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?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

*Call to Worship

Leader: Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.

People: That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

Rev. Lucas S. Tribble

*Invocation

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Almighty God, Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we may enter into his call to take up our cross and follow him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Word

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

Luke 23:26-34

Choral Offering

When He Died Upon the Tree

arr. Patrick Liebergen

Yu Wang, Violin

Cathedral Choir

When he died upon the tree, love came down for you and me. O Lord, hear my humble plea: Lamb of God, have, mercy.

The Second Word

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

Luke 23:35-43

Choral Offering

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow

arr. K. Lee Scott

Cathedral Choir

Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, where the blood of Christ was shed, perfect Man on thee did suffer, perfect God on thee has bled! Here the King of all the ages, throned in light ere worlds could be, robed mortal flesh is dying, crucified by sin for me. O mysterious condescending! O abandonment sublime! Very God himself is bearing all the sufferings of all time! Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, where the blood of Christ was shed, perfect Man on thee did suffer, perfect God on thee has bled, on thee has bled!

The Third Word

“Woman, here is your son...Here is your mother.”

John 19:23-27

Choral Offering

When Jesus Wept

William Billings/arr. Walker

Cathedral Choir

When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound; when Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around. My Son, my only Son.

The Fourth Word

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Mark 15:25-34

Choral Offering

Crucifixion

arr. Moses Hogan

Tyrone Hayes, Baritone

The Fifth Word

“I am thirsty.”

John 19:28

Choral Offering

Forsaken

arr. Dan Forrest

Yu Wang, Violin

Cathedral Choir

“How Long, O God, will you neglect my prayer? Will you forget these tears of dark despair? Yet not my will, but yours alone be done: Forsake not man, but me, your sinless Son. I, Christ the Son, obey your great command, enduring punishment for sinful man. As Son and silent Lamb, I choose this path: Accept rejection to appease your wrath. O why, my God, have you forsaken me? Why have you now refused my final plea? I cry out in sorrow, pain and fear, you turn your back, in silence disappear. I, Christ the Son, bear all their sin alone, Embracing judgement from your glorious throne. As Son and spotless Lamb, I shed me blood to bring them boldly to your face, my God. Forsake not man, but me, your sinless Son.”

The Sixth Word

“It is finished.”

John 19:29-30

Choral Offering

Thy Will Be Done

arr. Craig Courtney

Cathedral Choir

Our cup was filled with darkness. Our cup was filled with death. Christ took our cup and drank it, and gave us life, and gave us hope, gave us Himself. My Father, let this cup pass from me, yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done. In blackest night we hear Him in dark Gethsemane, pleading with the Father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day. My Father, let this cup pass from me, yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done. Then they took our Savior, and led Him to a tree; and there they broke His body, poured out His life, put Him to death to rise again! My Father, let this cup pass from me. Yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done. Thy will be done.

The Seventh Word

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Luke 23:46-49

The Stripping of the Altar

Choral Offering

Were You There?

Traditional

Meg Griffin, Amber Andrews, Avery Berry, Mabs Seay, James Seay, Solotists

After the last word from the cross is spoken, the altar will be stripped and the lighted Christ Candle will be taken from the altar and removed from the sanctuary, symbolizing the burial of the Light of the World. The lighted Christ Candle will be returned on Easter Sunday.

With Christ dead, there is nothing more to be said until Easter morning. At the conclusion of *Were You There?*, the bells will toll for thirty-three seconds, one second for each year of Jesus' earthly life.

**Please stand as you are able.*