

## Benediction

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross,  
give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens.

May Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourself, and to take up your cross and follow him.

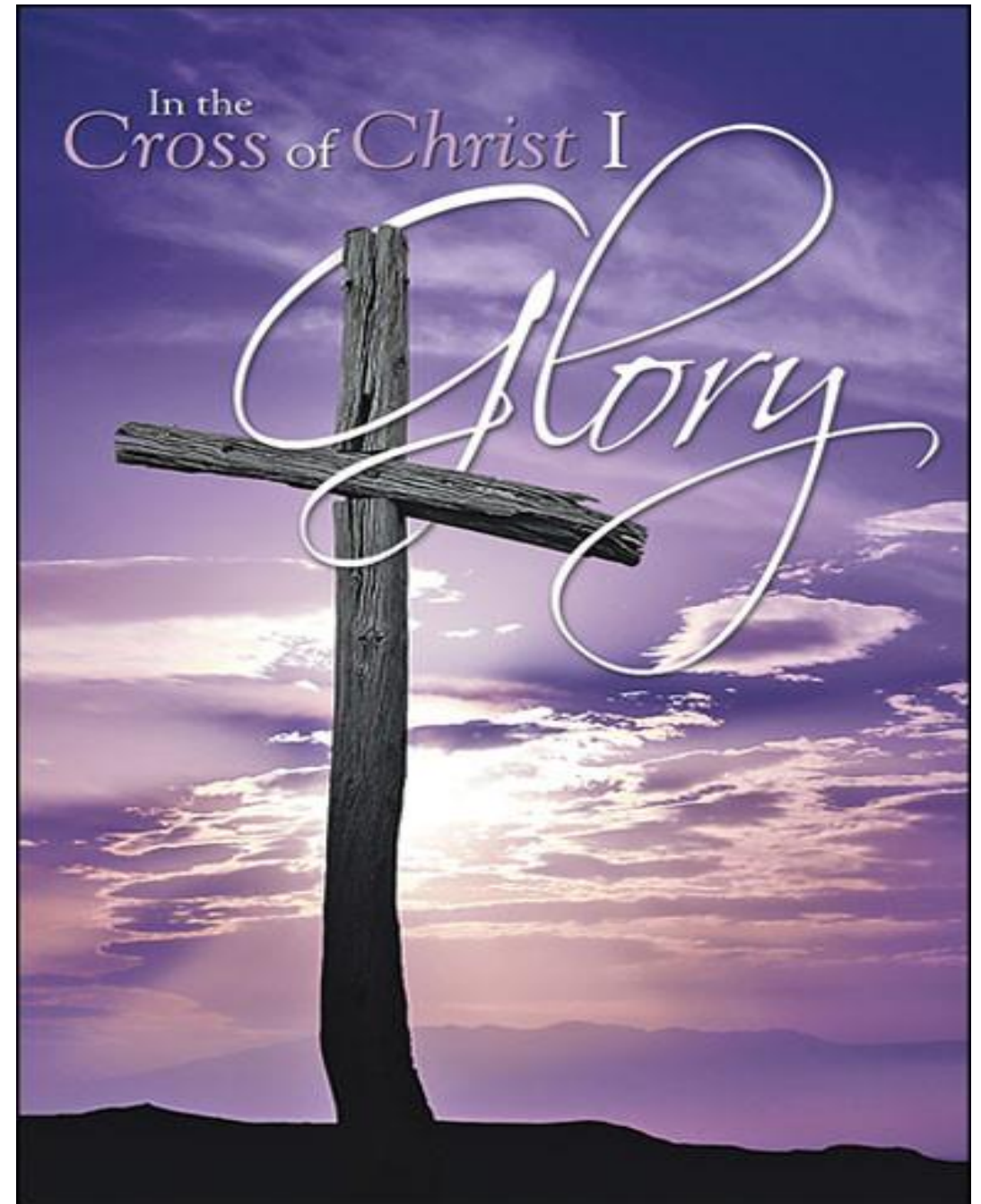
And may the blessing of God our Creator,  
Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.

## Postlude and Recessional

*“Adoramus Te”*

Palestrina

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church.  
Our office hours are Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.  
We can be found on the web at [www.fpcdanville.com](http://www.fpcdanville.com) or on Facebook.  
Please call us at 434-792-7822



# Good Friday Service

April 15, 2022

\*It is customary to enter and leave the sanctuary with reverence.

## Welcome

Prelude      *"Let Us Gather in The Shadow of the Cross"*      Nix

## \*Call to Worship

Come, let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ.

**We gather to remember the overwhelming evidence of Love's ultimate sacrifice.**

Who would have guessed that the height and depth, the length and width of God's love might look like this: a forsaken savior on a cross?

**Certainly not us. Not us, who are too often lost amid the world's distractions and responsibilities. Not us, for whom such love was offered without cost.**

Let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ and commit ourselves to remember the price paid. Let us live our lives in a way that indicates why this Friday is called "Good."

**Thanks be to God, who opened the gates of heaven, that we might have the faith, hope, and love, witnessed in Christ's sacrifice for our salvation.**

**\*Invocation: Holy and ever-living God, look graciously on this your body of believers for which our Savior Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to suffer death upon the cross; and grant us to grow into the fullness of new life in Christ who now is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Prayer of Confession

No, God, we were not there when they crucified Jesus. But we are today. As we unite our hearts in worship, we too can imagine and visualize in our own small way the sharp pain and deep suffering of our Lord. We have attempted to view history and dismiss any personal involvement or guilt by boldly asserting we would never have acted that way. Yet, we did and still do! As much as we try, we cannot escape the frightening truth that we have contributed to Christ's death on the cross. It is for our sins and stubborn rebellion that he died on this day. God, forgive our weak and vacillating faith, which is more conditioned and controlled by the pressure of the crowds than the presence of Christ. Replay the Crucifixion within our minds so that we might see your wounded, outstretched hands of love. Lift the shadows of sin and drive home the redeeming goodness of this Friday.

## Assurance of Pardon

In the name of the compassionate Christ, you are forgiven.

**For God has declared, "I forgive your evil ways and remember your sins no more!"**

Responsive Hymn      *"What Wondrous Love Is This"*      **GTG#215**

First Reading      Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Solo      *"They Crucified My Lord"*      Mack Williams

**Good Friday Reading (Responsively)**      written by Dan Wilt  
The Institute Of Contemporary And Emerging Worship Studies

Scripture      Luke 9:21-17

Solo      *"Take Up Your Cross"*  
Brandie Collins and Sandie Parker

Message      *"Take Up Your Cross"*      Rev. Barbara Cousar  
Trinity United Methodist Church

Hymn      *"Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said"*      **GTG#718**

## **GOOD FRIDAY READING: IN YOUR CROSS**

In Your cross, we truly see The God who suffers

**All: To show us the magnificence of love.**

The God who offers,

**All: To purchase those He made by love.**

The God who chooses,

**ALL: To sacrifice His greatest love.**

The God who conquers,

**All: The pow'rs of ages by force of love.**

**Women: In Your cross, we see the God who nurtures, shares and gives.**

**Men: In Your cross, we see the God who suffers, dies, then lives.**

In Your cross, we see the pathway,

**ALL: In Your cross, we see the fullness, In Your cross, we see the supremacy of love that suffers, redeems, sacrifices and rises in victory.**

In Your cross we see humanity freed from powers unseen, within and without. In Your cross, we see the way to life marked by love that faces death, surrenders it's will, gives without limit, and lives to serve another.

**All: Your life-giving Spirit begins this work of love in us. Your resurrection life seals this work of love for us. Your transforming hope draws this love from us, so that we too hear the call to pick up our cross and follow you.**