



RIVERBEND UNITED CHURCH

Good Friday – April 3, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome / Invitation to Worship

*Opening Hymn *O Sacred Head* vss. 1, 3, 4 VU 145

Unison Prayer Lyndsay Vander Hoek

**God of grace in grief and suffering,
be with us as we gather in the shadow of the cross
and enter the story of Jesus' death.**

**We would not choose to be brought face to face
with this instrument of torture and death.
Yet we are called to be here,
to face the ways we ignore him —
denying those in need, using our power over others,
failing to love our neighbor.**

**Forgive us, we pray, for turning our backs
on the suffering of the world.**

**May we trust that you are here with us,
that you lead us through this darkest night.**

**Free us by the unbending faith
and uncompromising love of Christ,
that we too may rise from our night into the dawn.**

In his holy name we pray, Amen.

Reflection "The Cross: Depth and Breadth" Rev. Valerie Oden

Anthem *Once Upon a Tree* RUC Choir

Scripture	John 18: 33-37; John 19: 1-3	
Hymn	<i>What Wondrous Love</i> vss. 1 and 2	VU 147
Scripture	John 19: 4-7	
Hymn	<i>What Wondrous Love</i> vs 3	VU 147
Scripture	John 19: 8-12	
Hymn	<i>What Wondrous Love</i> vs 4	VU 147
Scripture	John 19: 13-19	
Hymn	<i>Don't Be Afraid</i>	MV 90
Scripture	John 19: 23-25a	
Hymn	<i>Don't Be Afraid</i>	MV 90
Scripture	John 19: 25b-27	
Hymn	<i>Stay With Us</i> (All verses) (See Screen) (VU 182, Using the words "blessed Saviour")	
Scripture	John 19: 28-30	
Hymn	<i>Were You There</i>	VU 144

You are invited to leave in silence when ready.

*denotes you are invited to stand as you are able

VU refers to the red hymnal, *Voices United*

MV refers to the spiral bound hymnal, *More Voices*



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