



# Service of Shadows

## Second Presbyterian Church

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**Dr. Daniel S. Williams**

*Pastor*

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# SERVICE OF SHADOWS

April 2, 2010

Good Friday

7:30 P.M.

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## GATHERING

He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

– Isaiah 53:5 [NIV]

## PRELUDE

## GREETING

### CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,

**P: Who redeems us from sin and death.**

L: For us and our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death  
on a cross.

**P: God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that  
the world might be saved through him.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them unto the Lord.**

## THE SHADOW OF OUR NEED

\*HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

CB 320

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, the events of Good Friday cause us to face the truth. 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. We are not worthy of your love, yet you love us still in  
Christ Jesus. Forgive us, empower us, change us, for the sake of our  
crucified Savior. Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Christ died for our sins once and for all. He, the just, suffered for the  
unjust to bring us to God. Friends, believe the Good News!

**P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

*(The First Candle is Extinguished)*

## THE SHADOW OF AN UNSHARED VIGIL

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Luke 22:39-46

L: Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him.

**P: On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”**

L: He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed,

**P: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”**

L: An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.

**P: And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.**

L: When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow.

**P: “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”**

**HYMN**

“Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone”

CB 673

*(Verses 1-2)*

*(The Second Candle Is Extinguished)*

## THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL AND ARREST

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 18:3-13

L: ... Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons. Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?”

**P: “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied.**

L: “I am he,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.)

**P: When Jesus said, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground.**

L: Again he asked them, “Who is it you want?”

**P: And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.”**

L: “I told you that I am he,” Jesus answered. “If you are looking for me, then let these men go.”

**P: This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.”**

L: Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s

servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

**P: Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"**

L: Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

*(The Third Candle Is Extinguished)*

**THE SHADOW OF DENIAL**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Matthew 26:57-58; 69-75

L: Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled.

**P: But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.**

L: Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

**P: But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.**

L: Then he went out to the gateway, where another girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

**P: He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"**

L: After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them, for your accent gives you away."

**P: Then he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!"**

L: Immediately a rooster crowed. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

**P: And he went outside and wept bitterly.**

**LITANY**

L: Eternal and ever blessed God, You sent Your Son Jesus into the world to be an example to us. Help us to walk in his steps. Help us to walk in his humility:

**P: So that we too may be among our fellows as those who serve.**

L: Help us to walk in his forgiveness:

**P: So that we too may forgive, as we hope to be forgiven.**

L: Help us to walk in his courage:

**P: So that nothing may ever deflect us from the way we ought to take.**

L: Help us to walk in his endurance:

**P: So that nothing may daunt or discourage us until we reach our goal.**

L: Help us to walk in his loyalty:

**P: So that nothing may ever seduce our hearts from our devotion to him.**

L: Help us to share in the life that our Lord once lived on earth:

**P: So that we may also share the life He gives in his risen power.**

L: Grant that it may be our meat and drink to do the will of our Father, who is in heaven.

**P: Grant us to take up whatever cross is laid upon us and gladly and gallantly carry it.**

L: Grant that as we share his cross, so we may also share his crown;

**P: As we share his death, so we may also share his life.**

L: And so grant that having suffered with him,

**P: We may also reign with him.**

L: This we ask for Your love's sake.

**P: Amen.**

*(The fourth candle is extinguished)*

## THE SHADOW OF JUDGMENT

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Mark 15:1-15

L: Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, reached a decision. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.

**P: "Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate.**

L: "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.

**P: The chief priests accused him of many things.**

L: So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of."

**P: But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.**

L: Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising.

**P: The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did.**

L: "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to

him.

**P: But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead.**

L: “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them.

**P: “Crucify him!” they shouted.**

L: “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

**P: But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”**

L: Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

**HYMN**

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”  
*(The fifth candle is extinguished)*

CB 316

### **THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Matthew 27:32-44

L: As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross.

**P: They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull).**

L: There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.

**P: When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots.**

L: And sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

**P: Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

L: Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

**P: Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!”**

L: In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him.

**P: “He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! He’s the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.**

L: He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said,

‘I am the Son of God.’”

**P: In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.**

**MEDITATION**

“Behold the Lamb”

Dr. Williams

**HYMN**

“Lamb of God”

CB 302

*(The sixth candle is extinguished)*

## **THE SHADOW OF DEATH**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** Matthew 27:45-51; 54

L: From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani*” – which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.” Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.” And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks split. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”

**CHOIR SPECIAL**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

CB 324

## **SILENT REFLECTION – One Minute**

The last candle remains burning. This one light burns as the sign of the hope of Easter.

## **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

L: Go into the world in peace, knowing that God has made the ultimate sacrifice through Jesus, who is the Christ. Love one another, as Christ loves you, now and forever.

**P: Amen.**

Please depart in silence.  
The lights will be turned back on  
at this point.

\* Congregation please stand, if able

## GOOD FRIDAY

“Here is your king,”  
Pilate said to the Jews.  
But they shouted,  
“Take him away!  
Take him away!  
Crucify him!”  
“Shall I crucify  
your king?” Pilate asked.

“We have no king but Caesar,” the chief priests answered. Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him,

and with him two others –  
one on each side and  
Jesus in the middle.

Pilate had a notice  
prepared and fastened  
to the cross. It read:

JESUS OF NAZARETH,  
THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Many of the Jews read  
this sign, for the place  
where Jesus was crucified  
was near the city, and  
the sign was written in  
Aramaic, Latin and Greek.

The chief priests of the Jews  
protested to Pilate, “Do not  
write ‘The King of the Jews,’  
but that this man claimed  
to be king of the Jews.”

Pilate answered, “What  
I have written, I have written.”