



Good Friday

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church

April 18, 2025

5:00 p.m.

The *Seven Last Words* are a set of texts that have their origins in the bible, and are often referenced in liturgical services during Holy Week. Musical settings exist as far back as the sixteenth century, with notable versions by Haydn and later by Gounod, Franck and Dubois.

Haunting in their simplicity, they expose a gamut of emotions experienced during the Passion in a way that distills the most poignant moments of the human condition; from the tender forgiveness of the *Father, Forgive Them* to the hopefulness of the promise of paradise, *Today, You Will Be with Me*.

The work unfolds to reveal a complex tapestry of states of emotion; compassion (*Behold Your Son*), yearning (*I Thirst*), despair (*My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me?*), acceptance (*Into Your Hands I Surrender My Soul*), and resignation (*It is Finished*). This setting uses various interpolations of biblical and liturgical texts such as the Kyrie Eleison (“Lord, have mercy”), “Truly this man was the Son of God,” and “All of the gates were opened wide” as commentary on, and in dialogue with, the words of Christ, further expanding the story and the reaction of those present and witness to the Passion.

PRELUDE

“Adagio for Strings”

Samuel Barber

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Behold the life-giving cross on which the sins of the world have been hung.

People: Come, let us worship him.

Pastor: Behold the life-giving cross on which the salvation of the world was won through Jesus Christ.

People: Come, let us worship him.

Pastor: On this dark Friday we call “good” we remember Jesus.

People: We remember that he died for our sin so that we might have new life. Thanks be to God!

✠HYMN #221 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” *Passion Chorale*

PRAYER

Seven Last Words

Michael John Trotta

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

Kyrie eleison. (Lord, have mercy.)

Christe eleison. (Christ have mercy.)

Moment of Silent Reflection

Today, you will be with me in paradise.

Remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

O Lord, hear me!

Moment of Silent Reflection

Behold your son.

At the cross, her station keeping,

Stood mournful mother weeping. Behold!

Moment of Silent Reflection

I thirst!

If you are Christ, come down from the cross that we

might see and believe.

If you are King, save yourself, that we might see and believe.

Moment of Silent Reflection

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Moment of Silent Reflection

Into your hands I surrender my whole soul.

Not mine, but your will be done.

Moment of Silent Reflection

And with a loud voice, Jesus cried, exclaiming:

“It is finished!”

Darkened was the sun;

Darkness covered the earth;

Torn was the veil;

The earth did quake;

All of the graves were opened wide!

Truly this man was the Son of God.

Moment of Silent Reflection

(Please exit the Sanctuary in silence as our service of remembrance is finished.)

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, Interim Senior Pastor
Matt Kauffman, Minister of Music
Tabernacle Sanctuary Choir
Joshua Ridenour, Organist
Patrick Lord-Remmert, Baritone
Toria Sigafos, Soprano

Instrumentalists

Violin 1	Tom Watkins Natalia Blinchevsky
Violin 2	Ginny Womack Nick Drumm
Viola	Suzane Um Emilee Newell
Cello	Eric Edberg Polina Umansky
Bass	Joe Everett
Flute	Ann Mozina
Oboe	Leonid Sirotkin
Trumpet	Mark Middleton Abby Ellinger
Horn	Katy Briel
Timpani	Jason Spangler
Harp	Wendy Muston