

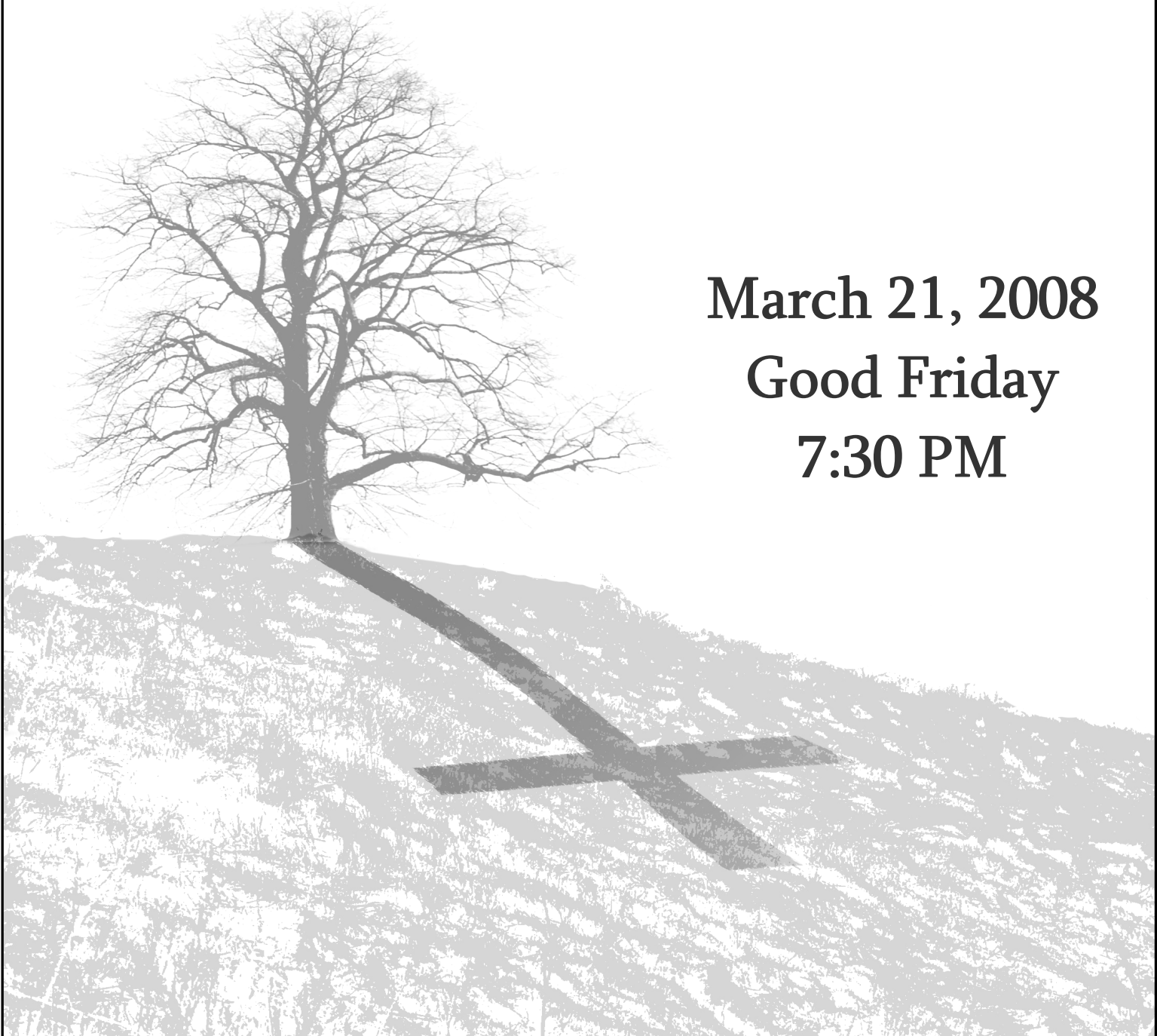
Laguna Niguel Presbyterian Church

A Service for the Worship of God

March 21, 2008

Good Friday

7:30 PM



This Service of Darkness commemorates the suffering and death of Christ. The candles symbolize Christ who is our Light and the Light of the World. Following each reading and meditation of Christ's death upon the Cross, the candles are progressively extinguished dramatically portraying the fading light of Christ as he was leaving the world.

TENEBRAE – A SERVICE OF DARKNESS

PRELUDE *Were You There?* TRADITIONAL
Ellen Starratt, Soloist; Suk Choi, Organ

DANCE MEDIATION *Ah, Holy Jesus* arr. Jan Sanborn
Rena Kamariotakis, Liturgical Dancer

**CALL TO WORSHIP*

Leader: We who have known failure and defeat are summoned to walk with Jesus to Calvary.

People: *We who face weakness and temptation gather in the name of One who overcame them.*

Leader: We seek salvation in the One despised and rejected, from whom there came no violence or deceit.

People: *We come with our doubts and fears, our work and worries, and look for God's peace and refreshment.*

**HYMN OF REFLECTION 216* *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* ST. CHRISTOPHER

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 27:38-44 Pew Bible, N.T. page 32

MEDITATION "Good Friday People Living in a Good Friday World" Dr. Randy Steele

CHORAL REFLECTION *God So Loved the World with The Love of Jesus* arr. Clydesdale
Allen Renning, Saxophone; Carol Stocksdale, Soloist; Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (In Unison) Rev. Duncan McColl

On this darkest of days, we cry out against the contradictions we see and hear all around us. How, O God, can this day be called "good"? If you are Almighty, why do you not intervene against our inhumanity? Why must suffering mark the road to salvation? Why is goodness crucified before our eyes? Lead us, loving God, through the confusion and pain of Jesus' last hours. Reveal your purposes once more through the silent witness before the wrongful accusers and the nonviolent response to pretensions of power. Speak to us now of triumphant faithfulness as we see ourselves among the secret admirers, the jealous religious leaders, and the fearful crowds. Amen.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Lesson I — Matthew 26:36-46 Rev. Duncan McColl
Jesus' disciples fall asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane.

FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE *O Gethsemane* arr. Clydesdale
Chancel Choir

Lesson II — Matthew 26:47-56
Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss.

Stacy Podres

SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE 477 (vss. 3, 2, 1) *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*
Congregation and Choir
(Congregation is invited to sing verse 1 when directed)

EBENEZER

Lesson III — Matthew 26:57-68
Jesus before the Sanhedrin

Dr. Randy Steele

THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE 213 (vs. 3) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
Congregation and Choir

HAMBURG

Lesson IV — Matthew 26:69-75
Peter's denial

Heather Flower

FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE 231 (vss. 1, 2) *Ah, Holy Jesus*
Congregation and Choir

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Lesson V — Matthew 27:15-26
Jesus before Pilate

Rev. Duncan McColl

FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE 464 (vss. 2,1) *I Lay My Sins on Jesus*
Congregation and Choir
(Congregation is invited to sing verse 1 when directed)

CALCUTTA

Lesson VI — Matthew 27:27-44
The soldiers mock Jesus.

Stacy Podres

SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

RESPONSE 221 (vss. 1, 3) *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*
Congregation and Choir

PASSION CHORALE

Lesson VII — Matthew 27:45-50
The death of Jesus

Heather Flower

SEVENTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED AND THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

(The slow tolling of the bell seven times signifies the completeness of Christ's sacrifice for us.)

RESPONSE 632

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

MALOTTE

Judy Ruddiman, lead vocal; Congregation and Choir

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.

Lesson VIII — Matthew 27:51-54
Surely, He was the Son of God

Dr. Randy Steele

RESPONSE 484 (vss. 1, 3, 4)

The Old Rugged Cross

OLD RUGGED CROSS

Chancel Choir

**BENEDICTION*

God sent Jesus into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved, that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of eternal life.

Please remain seated in silence until the aisles are lighted to facilitate leaving.

Silence is observed throughout the Sanctuary from this time forward.

*Each person is encouraged to pray and meditate
as long as he or she desires, then to leave in silence.*

**THE SILENT RECESSIONAL*

Easter Sunday Worship —
Worship with us this Sunday, March 23,
as we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord.

We invite you to join us at 8:50 am. or 10:30 am.