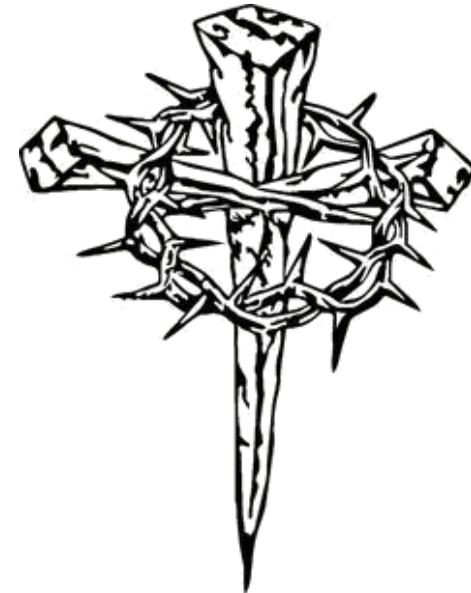


*Vestal United Methodist Church*  
*Good Friday*



*March 30, 2018*

Vestal United Methodist Church  
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Welcome to all our visitors today! Welcome packets in the pew back in front of you. We would appreciate it if you would take time to complete an information card and return it in the offering plate. Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to talk with any of our staff or volunteers.



\* Indicates to stand if you are able

**Prelude** *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde groß* JS BACH

**Reading** Matthew 16:21-26 **The Cross & Self-Denial**

**Choral Call to Worship** *Be Not Afraid* CRAIG COURTNEY

**Congregational Call to Worship**

Leader: We find ourselves standing before the cross.

**People: We are aware of our complicity in its horror.**

Leader: We find ourselves wondering how we got here,

**People And why we allowed things to go so far.**

Leader: Meet us in this dark place, Lord, and give us strength.

**All: Give us strength to overcome the darkness.**

\* **290 Hymn** *Go to the Dark Gethsemane* [verses 1-3] REDHEAD 76

**Readings** Matthew 16:31-32, 69-75 **Peter's Denial of Jesus**

**Anthem** *From the Ashes* PAMELA STEWART & LLOYD LARSON

**Silence**

**Prayer for Good Friday**

Jesus, crucified and living Savior, we are huddled together in doubt and fear like the disciples of long ago. We do not want to be separated; we do not want to be forsaken; we do not want to say "good-bye"; we do not want to follow you with a cross. But, even as we know you call us to follow you into brokenness and death, we also know that you have gone before — you have faced danger and conquered doubt. As we remember the Good Friday events of long ago, we are brought closer to each other and feel your presence with us, and we know that we can go with you, because your promise abides with us. Amen.

**Reading** John 1:26-34 **The Lamb of God**

**Word in Music** *Behold the Lamb* GF HANDEL

**Silence**

**Readings** John 18:1-11  
John 18:28-38

**The Betrayal & Arrest of Jesus  
Jesus Before Pilate**

**Silence**

**Reading** John 19:1-11, 14-16 **Jesus is Condemned to Die**  
\* **289 Hymn** *Ah, Holy Jesus* [verses 1, 3 & 5] HERZLIEBSTER JESU

**Readings** Matthew 27:32-44 **The Crucifixion of Jesus**  
Matthew 27:45-54 **The Death of Jesus**

**Extended Silence**

**Word in Music** *Requiem* ELIZA GILKYSON

**Reading** John 19:38-42 **The Burial of Jesus**  
\* **288 Hymn** *Were You There?* [verses 1,2 and 5] WERE YOU THERE

**Silence**

**Word in Music** *When I Return* MARTA KEEN

**Reading** Revelation 5:6-14

**Benediction in Music** *Worthy is the Lamb* GF HANDEL

*Please leave our service in silence, remembering God's acts of grace and unconditional love — praying for a resurrection.*

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Offering plates are located at the rear of the sanctuary for your donations this evening.