

First Baptist Church Halifax

Founded in 1827

1300 Oxford Street, Halifax, N. S. B3H 3Y8

Telephone 422-5203 Fax 422-8665

firstbaptisthalifax.org; fbaphfx@eastlink.ca

GOOD FRIDAY

29 March 2013; 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Organ Prelude

***Processional Hymn** #98 "O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED" (PASSION CHORALE)

***Call to Worship** - Rev. John E. Boyd

(Written by: Jeff Crittenden. *Gathering*, Lent/Easter 2013, page17. Used with permission.)

As God's gathered community we remember our sacred story,
a story of brutality, false accusations, and humiliation.

We remember the story of Jesus the Christ, who reveals to us the cost of love,
a reality that, through our baptism, reminds us of the uneasy path of discipleship.

Together, let us enter into the story that unfolds in the shadows,
as Christ shines his light of faith, hope, and love.

And the greatest of these...
is love.

*Prayer

Suffering God, whose compassion is with all your children in their times of grievous need and whose purposes will prevail in spite of opposition, injustice, and death, take us once more to Gethsemane and Calvary to face the cross. Let us share the experience of loneliness, rejection and pain in such way that we are strengthened to live as people of the covenant who provoke one another to love and give encouragement to those facing bitter trials. Forsake not your children, we pray, for we trust you and want to respond to your leading. Amen.

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Choir

And Did My Saviour Bleed

Alan Manchester

Ben Marmen, Cellist; Lynette Wahlstrom, Conductor

REFLECTING ON THE PASSION OF CHRIST

First Lesson

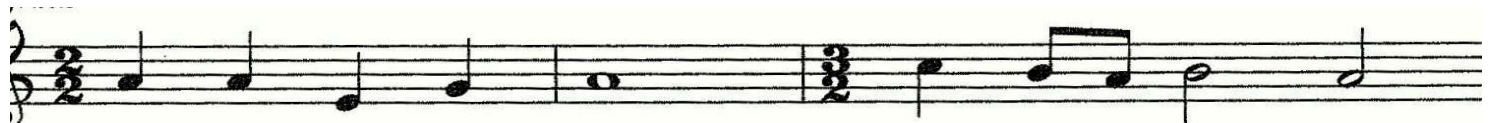
Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12

- reader from St. David's

Psalm Response

Psalm 22:1 - 15

- reader from First Baptist



Lord, you are my strength,

has - ten to help me.

Where are you God, where are you?

Nothing compares with the pain of your absence.

God, I cry out for you all day, and there is no answer — nothing;
but at night there is no silence or rest from my inner turmoil.

Yet you are holy,

the praises of your people in every generation are your throne;
those who trusted in you, and whom you delivered;
those who cried out to you and were not disappointed. R

But in my present circumstance I am not worth calling human,
rather, I'm the scorn of all humanity, despised by everyone.

It makes no difference who sees me,

without exception they curl their lip and shake their head:

“He trusted in the LORD, let the LORD look out for him,
let the LORD rescue him if he delights in him.”

It's as though they know you're nowhere near. R

Yes, you brought me out of the womb, and made me safe on my mother's breasts.

I was cast on you at birth; all my life you have been my God.

Don't be so far away right now; there is trouble almost upon me, and no one to help.

I am surrounded by fearful intimidating strength,
circling about me, around and around.

I haven't the strength to withstand their taunts or your absence; my body is feeble,
and the very core of my being has melted like wax.

I've become paralysed and speechless - and you have set me in the dust of death.

Dogs surround me – a pack of wild dogs encircle me;
my hands and feet are exhausted.

I count all my bones; they stare at me and look me over;

they share out my garments among themselves; casting lots for my clothes.

But you, LORD, don't be so far away;

O my Help, hurry to me! R

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Epistle	Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9	- reader from St. John's
Hymn	#76 “MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN”	(LOVE UNKNOWN)
Gospel	Luke 22 - 23 (selected)	- reader from St. Andrew's
Sermon	?	- Rev. Linda Yates

RESPONSE

Offertory Anthem	Agnus Dei ?, Conductor	Samuel Barber
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***Presentation of Offering**

Prayers		- Rev. Dr. Russell Daye
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*Hymn	#99 “THRONE UPON THE AWFUL TREE”	(ARFON)
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The Reproaches

... these lamentations are based on words spoken by Christ. They are meant to be a call and response between Christ and the church, in which the goodness of God is contrasted with our sorry history of sin and evil, and in which Christ compares the good he has done to us, with the evil we have done to him and to each other. It's a powerful text for that very reason. It emphasizes the magnitude of human sin, and the ingratitude with which we have responded to God as well as Christ's love for the church and the world.

O my people, O my Church,
I came that you may have life in all its fullness,
and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.
Why do your children die of emptiness each day?
My people, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Music: David Ogden

The musical notation is in G major (one flat) and 6/8 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a repeat sign. The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics "Ho - ly God," are written below. The second staff continues with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5, followed by a quarter rest. The lyrics "Ho - ly and strong," are written below. The third staff starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics "Ho - ly and im - mor - tal," are written below. The fourth staff continues with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5, followed by a quarter rest. The lyrics "Havemer - cy on us." are written below. The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat sign.

O my people, O my Church,
My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
and I washed your feet as a sign of my love,
and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.
Why do your children die in conflict each day?
My people, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us

O my people, O my Church,
I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;
I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me,
and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.
Why do your children die of neglect each day?
My people, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us

O my people, O my Church,
I told you not to let your hearts be troubled or afraid
I invited you to believe in God and in me
Why do your children die in fear each day?
My people, what have I done to you?
How have I offended you? Answer me!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us

If you have ears to hear
Then listen to my pleading
And do not turn away from me.
You are my people: will you reject me?
For you I claim the cross this day.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us

***Hymn** #100 “WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”

(ROCKINGHAM)

***Benediction**

Organ Postlude

**Please stand as you are able*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH HALIFAX welcomes the clergy, organists, choirs, readers and congregations of St. Andrew's and St. John's United Churches and the Presbyterian Church of St. David to our combined Good Friday Service. We thank all those whose preparation and participation today have made this service possible.

TODAY'S LOOSE OFFERING will go to ?