



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 www.ELPC.church

As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God — the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God's unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ's radical hospitality to all. (Strategic Vision mission statement, 2011)

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7, 2023 — 12 NOON CHAPEL WORSHIP

PRELUDE "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" Gerald Savage, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made. **People:** We will face the betrayal and denial.

People: God is not only God in joy, but also in sorrow. **We will witness the horror and heartbreak.**Leader: This, too, is a day that the Lord has made.

People: We will tell of God's deliverance, atonement, and redemption.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader:

Almighty God, draw near to us this day. Look with mercy on your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of our relatives of old, and to suffer death on the cross. Lord Christ, wash us anew that we may be made whole and to be agents of your ministry of love, compassion, and justice. In your name we pray. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN (printed in bulletin)

PASSION CHORALE

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Leader:

God does not sit on high, judging us from afar. God sympathizes with our weaknesses. Our God came to experience our lives, to be tested as we are tested, to know what it is to live on this earth. So let us approach God with boldness to receive forgiveness and mercy and to find grace. Let us pray together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Woodworth

O Christ, Son of God, we want so desperately to look away. We want to turn away from and ignore your suffering; we do not want to witness your death. We choke on our own cries of "Crucify!" And are ashamed of our silence in the face of hatred, lies, and deceit. We still ignore suffering, we still hurt the innocent, we still betray those we love, we still care more about ourselves than those who are in pain. Yet we trust in your mercy and grace, asking for your forgiveness while knowing we do not deserve it. Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, not according to our works, but by your inconceivable and unconditional love.

SUNG REFLECTION HYMN (printed in bulletin)

UBI CARITAS

"Ubi Caritas"

Live in charity and steadfast love. Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

^{*} Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

The Rev. Woodworth

Leader: Beloved children of God, all is not lost. Even now, when it seems all has ended, we wait for hope.

For in the darkness of this day, salvation is just beginning. This is the good news of Good Friday.

People: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 53:1-12 The Rev. Schoenewolf

Hebrews 10:16-25 The Rev. Woodworth

* **HYMN** (printed in bulletin) "On a Barren Hilltop" KING'S WESTON

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATIONThe Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

GOSPEL READING John 19:16b-30 The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

HOMILY "It Is Finished" The Rev. Fowler-Searcy

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN (printed in bulletin; remain seated) "They Crucified My Lord" CRUCIFIXION

DEPART IN SILENCE

You are welcome to remain in the Chapel for a time of silent prayer following our service.

OS

Please remember to turn off cell phones during worship.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy Liturgists: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

Musicians: Gerald Savage, Journey Music Director

Adrianna Cleveland, *Soloist*David Jennings-Smith, *Soloist*Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

♦ HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Below is a listing of the remaining Holy Week and Easter Sunday services we are offering at ELPC.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7

7:00 pm......**Tenebrae Service.** In Sanctuary. Service of light and darkness. The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 8

7:00 pm......Easter Vigil Service. The Great Vigil includes reaffirmation of baptism vows, communion and announcement of Christ's resurrection. The Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead this service.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

8:45 amJourney Worship. The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf will preach at this communion service in the Social Hall.

11 am......Sanctuary Worship. Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists. Special music begins at 10:45 am. The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf will preach and lead communion.

♦ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation

Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France. Rev. BJ Woodworth leads this service in the Chapel.

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (in Highland Ave hallway)

Come to sit and pray in silence. Come to experience the quiet in the midst of the wonderful busyness.

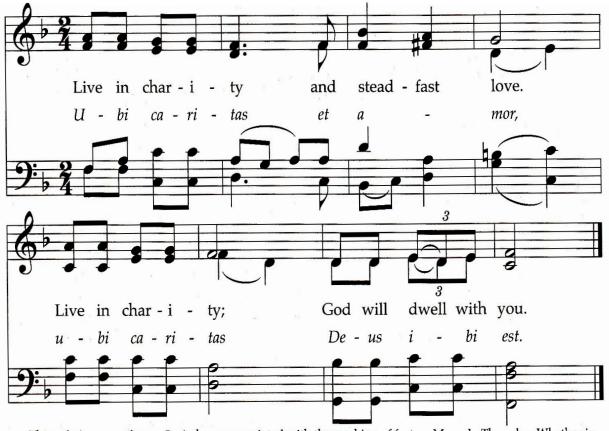
Available everyday

#221 — O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED



This poignant hymn originated in a series of Holy Week meditations focused on the parts of Christ's crucified body: feet, knees, hands, side, breast, heart, face. First joined to secular words, this chorale melody has appeared with this text since the mid-17th century.

#205 — UBI CARITAS / LIVE IN CHARITY



This refrain comes from a Latin hymn associated with the washing of feet on Maundy Thursday. Whether in English or Latin, it is most effective when sung unaccompanied and in parts. In many ways it is a miniature equivalent of "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" (see no. 727).

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; English trans. Taizé Community, 1991

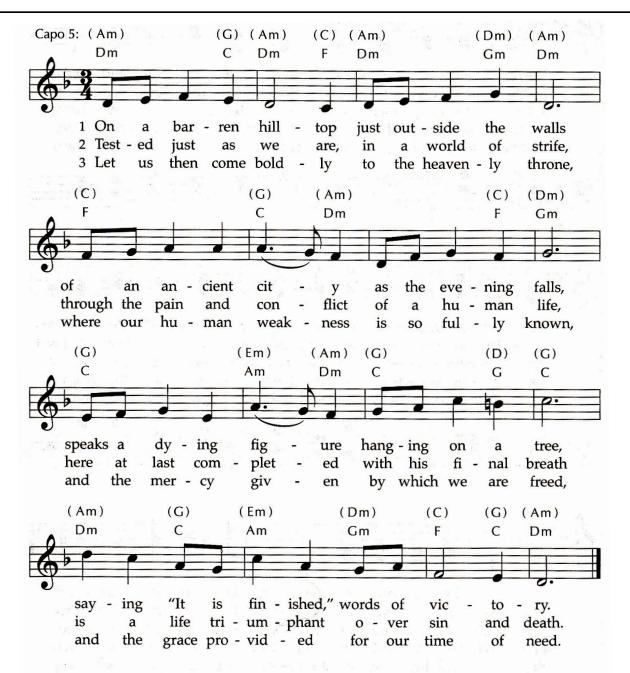
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Text and Music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

UBI CARITAS (Taizé) Irregular

OneLicense.net #A-700877

#217 — ON A BARREN HILLTOP



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first stanza of this text is based on John 19:17, 30 and the second and third stanzas on Hebrews 4:14–16. These passages and others provide the basis for the classic understanding of the atonement that sees Christ's redeeming work as a victory over all the powers of evil.



The African American spirituals recalling Christ's Passion provide poignant evidence of the eloquence and empathy born of shared suffering. The call-and-response singing style also provides a means of affirming the communal wisdom expressed in recurring phrases and refrains.



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