

Upcoming Worship Services

Easter Vigil, April 7 ~ 7:00 PM Holy Saturday
Sunrise Service, April 8 ~ 7:15 am in the Church Garden
Traditional Easter Service, April 8 ~ 9:15 am

IT IS GOOD FRIDAY

It is Friday and I stand at the foot of the cross.

Nothing can be said, nothing can be done.
Action is futile – hebel.
I can hold the other's hands and weep, but I cannot be comforted.

It is Friday and I stand at the foot of the cross.

The air is heavy still with waiting and longing.
Waiting for the inevitable, longing for the impossible.
Can this cup pass from me?
I look around me – all the colors are muted.
Dusty browns and grays – Cold and metallic.
Rolling black clouds cover the brilliant blue of the sky
As my soul is occluded by pain.
All that remains is the red of the blood
Running down the weathered wood of the cross.

It is Friday and I stand at the foot of the cross.

I reach out and touch the raised grain of the wood.
It is rough against my fingertips.
The pong of unwashed wool and bodies crowds my nose.
I smell fear, pain, death. I taste it at the back of my throat.
I hear the labored breathing from the cross.
Death is near.

It is Friday and I stand at the foot of the cross.

Remember Him!
Remember Him as the silver cord is severed, as the golden bowl is broken.
Remember Him as the pitcher is shattered at the spring and the wheel broken at the well.
Remember Him as the dust returns to the ground it came from and
His spirit returns to the God who gave it.

It is Friday and I stand at the foot of the cross.



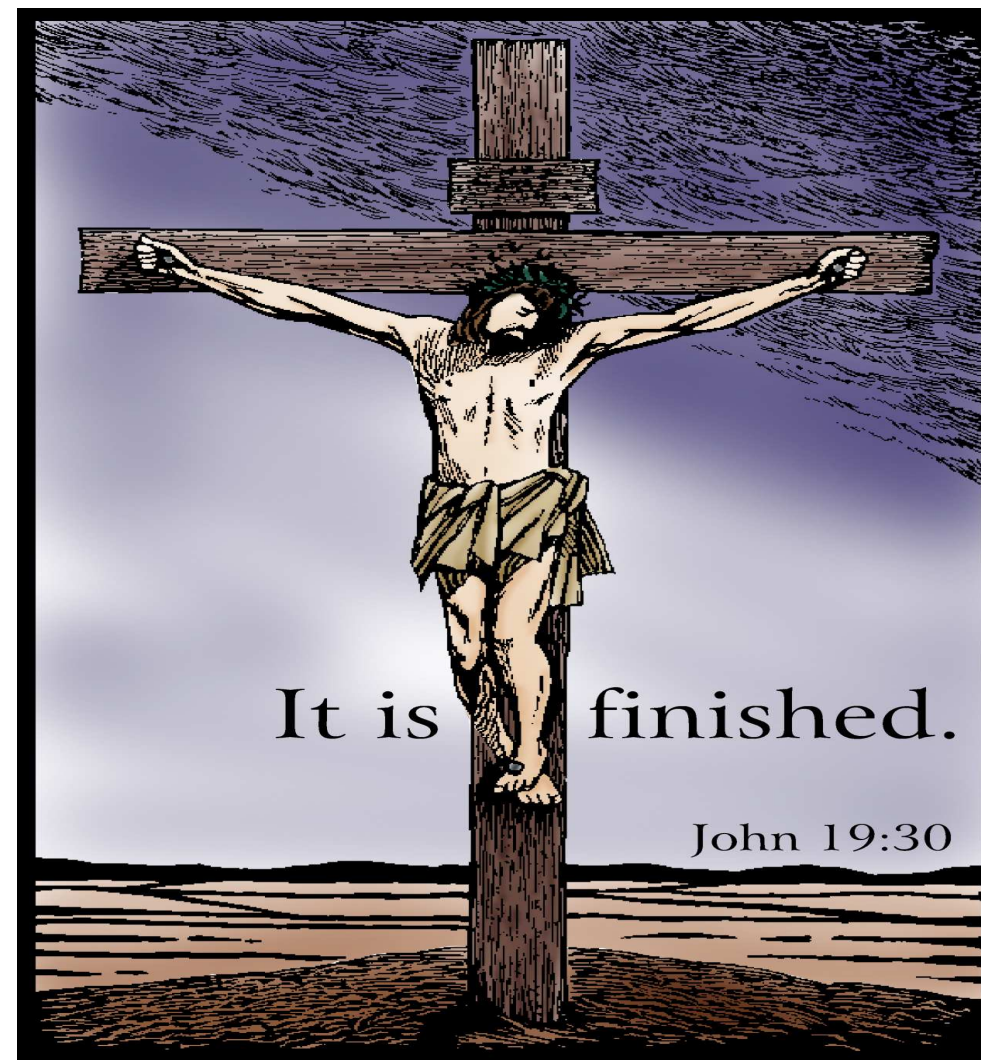
Fairgreen Presbyterian Church

3220 Laskey Road
Toledo, Ohio 43613
419-475-4436

Email: fairgreen.church@sbcglobal.net

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

APRIL 6, 2007





7:00 PM

**Seven Words To The Cross
The Courageous Word**



CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God, who redeems us from sin and death.
For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death upon a cross.
Blessed be the name of the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, you gave your Son to suffer the shame of the cross. Save us from hardness of heart, that, seeing him who died for us, we may repent, confess our sin, and receive your overflowing love, in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

***HYMN ~ #92** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN OF TRANSFORMATION (Sing through 3 times)

Spirit of the Living God, fall a fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall a fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall a fresh on me.

FIRST READING ~ Isaiah 52: 13- 53:12

SECOND READING ~ Psalm 22

Jesus spoke the opening words of Psalm 22 from the cross. As we read responsively, let us reflect on the loneliness and pain Jesus experienced on the cross.

My God, my God, why do you desert me? I cry desperately for help, but it does not come!

I feel more like a worm than a person! I feel scorned and abused by everyone. They make fun of me!

They stick out their tongues and sneer. They say to me: "If God cares for you, why doesn't God help you?"

Like a pack of dogs, evil people close in on me! They surround me and tear at my hands and feet!

I can count my bones! They can all be seen! My enemies look at me and stare! They gloat over me!

They gamble for my clothes and divide them among themselves. Come quickly to help me! Stay close to me, O God, and I will praise your power to all people!

In the midst of the congregation, I will praise you!
Let all the people of God worship and praise God!

HYMN ~ #388 (Verses 1, 2) "O Jesus I Have Promised"

GOSPEL READING ~ Mark 15: 25
"Joseph ... went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus"

GUIDED MEDITATION & A TIME OF SILENCE
Seven Words to the Cross – The Courageous Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

A READING AND SILENT REFLECTION The Ragman by Walter Wangerin

***HYMN ~ #536** "Lord, Make Us More Holy"

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

May the God of peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being - spirit, soul, mind and body, free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.