

HOLY WEEK OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, April 15

3:00 P.M. Easter Egg-stravaganza

Easter Sunday, April 16

6:00 A.M. **Easter Sunrise Service** – Renaissance Hotel
Breakfast Buffet available at 7:30 a.m.

9:00 A.M. **After-Sunrise Service** -- Renaissance Hotel

9:30 A.M. Sunday School

10:30 A.M. Fellowship Time

11:00 A.M. Easter Worship Service in Sanctuary

ON THE COVER: *Intimate Portrait* by Mike Lewis.

WHERE DOES THE TERM “GOOD FRIDAY” COME FROM?

The source of our term for the Friday before Easter, "Good Friday," is not clear. It may be a corruption of the English phrase "God's Friday," according to Professor Laurence Hull Stookey in *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church* (p. 96). It is the common name for the day among English- and Dutch-speaking people. It is a day that proclaims God's purpose of loving and redeeming the world through the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is a day that is good because God was drawing the world to God's self in Christ. As seen in John's gospel, particularly, God was in control. God was not making the best of a bad situation, but was working out God's intention for the world — winning salvation for all people. We call it "good" because we look backward at the crucifixion through the lens of Easter!

"Good Friday" is not a universal name for the day. The liturgical title for the day in the Western church was "Friday of Preparation," since the time Jews used the word *paraskeue* (getting ready) for Friday, meaning the "day of preparation." Popular names for the day are "Holy Friday" among the Latin nations, "Great Friday" among the Slavic peoples, "Friday of Mourning" in Germany, "Long Friday" in Norway, and "Holy Friday" (*Viernes Santo*) among Hispanic peoples.

Monumental United Methodist Church

Good Friday



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MONUMENTAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

450 Dinwiddie Street
Olde Towne, Portsmouth, Virginia

Good Friday Worship Service

April 14, 2006

7:00 P.M.

PRELUDE “*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*” (J. Brahms)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

OPENING PRAYER No. 284

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Philippians 2)

Leader: The Bible says that Jesus, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

People: **And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross!**

*HYMN “*Were You There*” No. 288

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 22

*HYMN “Ah, Holy Jesus” No. 289

EPISTLE READING Hebrews 9:11-28

GOSPEL READING Mark 15:22-24

*HYMN “*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*” No. 286

MESSAGE “**And They Crucified Him**” Dr. Louis Strickler

A Moment of Silence for Reflection and Confession

In the silence, open your life to God. “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10).

Offering: In lieu of a monetary offering this evening, we will give ourselves to the Lord as a living sacrifice. Think of at least one area of your life that you need to submit to the Lordship of Christ.

Please take this time to write down on your “heart” something you see in your life as a sin you would like to be freed from. (You will need this later when the service concludes outside at the cross.)

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 1: 5-9

A Moment of Silence for Forgiveness

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

*HYMN “*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*” No. 294

The service will conclude on the front lawn as we quietly go to the cross and assemble in a circle in silence.

--a time to give our hearts to Jesus.