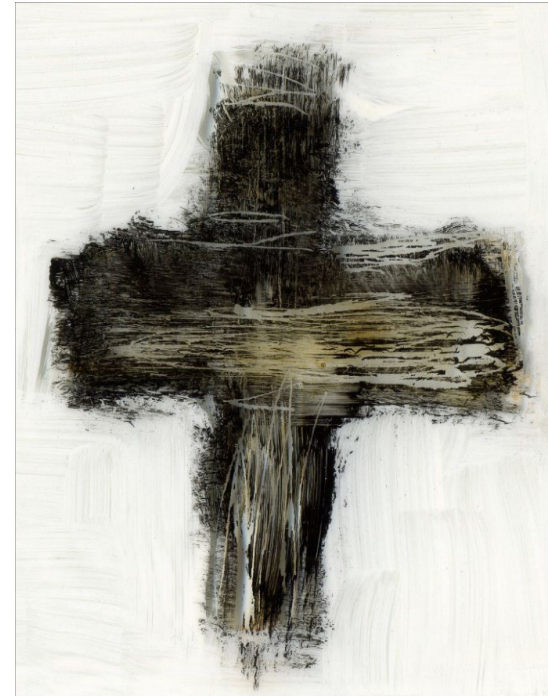


**Good Friday  
Joint Service  
at Orinda Community Church  
March 29, 2024, 7 pm**



*image by Jan Richardson*

Arlington Community Church  
City of Refuge UCC  
First Congregational Church of Berkeley UCC  
First Congregational Church of Alameda  
The Good Table UCC  
Ministerio Latino  
Orinda Community Church  
Plymouth UCC  
Skyline UCC  
Sycamore Congregational Church UCC

**Prelude** *Kyrie* music by Dina Reindorf

led by Sharon R. Fennema

**O God, have mercy...**  
**O Christ, have mercy...**  
**O God, have mercy....**

**Welcome**

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

**Opening Prayer** by Cole Arthur Riley

Lay Minister Marilyn Fowler

God of the long night,

Thank you for being a God not just of solidarity but of deep and raw emotion. A God who did not endure violence in silence but who spoke and cried as your body was broken on the cross. Help us to understand that our memory of you becomes more whole when we remember you alongside the injustices with which you suffered in solidarity: the hunger, the abuse, the loneliness of the world. Today let us grieve the path of the cross--illness, violence, alienation, the degradation of the land, and all pain unspoken. Let us weep and rest. Reveal yourself to us, remind us of a God who knows the weight of oppression, and help us believe that truly you are with us. That your cause is our cause—no less than justice and liberation in life and death. Amen.

*Breathe:*

*Inhale: This is too much to hold*

*Exhale: I can grieve with God*

**Music** *Bury Me* by Tracy Howe

led by Sharon R. Fennema

***Bury me in the struggle for freedom,  
in the arms of those who know my name.  
Cover me in love as the struggle, it goes on.  
Say my name until something beautiful is born.***

**Concluding Litany**

Reverend Lacey Hunter & Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

**Chant**

***Wait for our God, whose day is near.  
Wait for our God. Keep watch. Take heart.***

*You are welcome to remain in the sanctuary  
for a time of silent meditation and prayer.*

*Please leave when you are ready, going into the shadows of the night.*

## Reading

*We still live as if death mistakes us.  
We—who are capable of remembrance—are capable of liberation.*  
— Mahmoud Darwish

## Prayer

Reverend Dr. Kelly Colwell

**Musical Offering:** *Dream Deferred* by Sweet Honey in the Rock  
Plymouth UCC choir, Michelle Jacques & Steven Thomas Mark

**Invitation the Offering** Reverend Jennifer Chapman  
Offering to go to UCC Global Ministries, Partners in Palestine

**Offertory** *Infinite Grace* by Marty Parks,  
performed by Skyline Community Church Choir, Adam Green, director  
Rob Finucane, accompanist

## Blessing of Offering

## Reading

*There are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried.*  
—Oscar Romero

**Meditation:** *Luke 23:46 and John 19:30*

Reverend Rhina Ramos

**Call to Worship** by Sharon R. Fennema led by Reverend Tomoko Murao-Fuse

Leader: If the cross is what calls us to worship this night,  
let it be for solidarity.

**Assembly: Tonight, let us,  
like the tree pressed into the skin on Jesus' back,  
stay close to suffering  
until torture and pain are no more.**

Leader: If the cross is what calls us to worship this night,  
let it be to bear witness.

**Assembly: Tonight, let us, like the women, refuse to turn away  
from all that there is to grieve  
until our tears fuel a revolution.**

Leader: If the cross is what calls us to worship this night,  
let it be for transformation.

**Assembly: Tonight, let us, like the centurion,  
be changed by the sacredness we recognize  
in those who challenge empire  
until we are accountable for our own complicity.**

Leader: If the cross is what calls us to worship this night,  
let it be for lament.

**Assembly: Tonight, let us worship with hearts broken open  
by the crucifixions all around us  
until our pulses teach us that we are one in Love.**

**Chant** led by Reverend Dr. Melinda V. McLain, Amar Khalsa, and  
Sahib Amar Khalsa

***Within our darkest night,  
you kindle the fire that never dies away,  
never dies away.***

**Reading**

*To be human in an aching world is to know our dignity and become people  
who safeguard the dignity of everything around us. — Cole Arthur Riley*

**Hymn** NCH 490 *I Want Jesus to Go with Me*  
led by trio, sung by congregation

**Meditation** *Luke 23:34 and Luke 23:43* Chaplain Rae Ingram

**Music** *Were You There* by Mahalia Jackson Julia Hathaway

**Reading**

私の願いは志を分かち合える人々を求め続けることです。

既に知っていて、目に見える「同志」ではなく、未知で、もしかすると  
生涯顔を合わせて出会うことができないかもしれない「同志」と心を共  
にしてい、真の平和の実現のために努める仲間が増えることです。」

—深田未来生

*My hope is to continue to seek out people who share our vision.*

*Not "partners" that we already know and can see, but "partners" that are  
unknown and perhaps we will never meet face to face in our lifetime.*

*It is my hope that more and more people will join their hearts in striving for  
the realization of genuine peace.*

—Robert Mikio Fukada

**Meditation** *Mark 15:34*

Reverend Jean L. Jeffress

**Chant**

***Stay with me.  
Remain here with me.  
Watch and pray. Watch and pray.***