

2026 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

An Ecumenical Gathering hosted by the Alameda-Oakland Circuit Churches

Bayside Cambodian United Methodist Church

Buena Vista United Methodist Church

Chinese Community United Methodist Church

Chinese Presbyterian Church of Oakland

Christ Presbyterian Church of San Leandro

Lake Merritt United Methodist Church

New Bridges United Methodist Church



April 3, 2026

6:00PM (5:15PM Refreshment & Fellowship)

NEW BRIDGES UMC

1411 OAKS ST. ALAMEDA, CA 94501

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Rev. Jae-Kuk Jo

Silent Meditation

Greeting (responsive)

Rev. Judith Pruess-Mellow

Pastor: God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Pastor: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world,

People: and we loved darkness rather than light.

Song

Bless the Lord

Rev. Stephanie Gamero

Rev. Kenneth Schoon & All

Leader: Bless the Lord, my soul
and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.

**All: (x5) Bless the Lord, my soul
and bless God's holy name.**

**Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.**

Prayer (responsive)

Rev. Dr. Peter Chang

Pastor: Blessed be our God.

People: Forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: With one voice, let us pray.

**All: Almighty God, graciously behold your family, for whom
our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed into the hands
of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and
ever. Amen.**

Pastor: Let us be in silent meditation.

Silent Meditation

Prayer (responsive)

Rev. Joseph Kwan

Pastor: Dear People of God, we who have turned away from the pain of this day, who jump straight from the glory of palms to the celebration of resurrection, we must be called to remember - to remember that the cross is the ultimate sign of love. Our God so loved the world that He sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved; that all who believe in Him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with Him of everlasting life.

All: Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

UMH 361 vs 1-3

Stephnie Gameros & All

Anne Aldridge, Pianist

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to the cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

SERVICE OF SHADOWS

First of the Shadows

Jesus is Arrested

John 18:1-12

Brenda Wong

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. **2** Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. **3** So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. **4** Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" **5** They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. **6** When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. **7** Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." **8** Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these people go." **9** This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." **10** Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. **11** Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?" **12** So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.

Extinguish the first candle

Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

UMH 298 vs 124

When we survey the wondrous cross
On which the Lord of glory died,
Our richest gain we count but loss,
And pour contempt on all our pride.

Our God forbid that we should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, our Lord;
All the vain things that charm us most,
We'd sacrifice them to His blood.

His dying crimson, from His head
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
To all the world then am I dead,
And all the world is dead to me.

Second of the Shadows *Peter denies Jesus*
John 18:13-18; 25-27

Austin Tam

13 First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. **14** Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. **15** Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, **16** but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. **17** The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." **18** Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." **26** One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" **27** Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Extinguish the second candle

Hymn *What Wondrous Love Is This*
UMH 292 vs 1-2

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down;
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

Third of the Shadows *Trial of Jesus before Pilate*
John 18: 28-38a

Deacon Mei Hui

28 Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. **29** So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" **30** They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." **31** Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." **32** (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" **34** Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" **35** Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" **36** Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." **37** Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." **38** Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

Extinguish the third candle

Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

UMH 286 vs 1-3

O sacred head now wounded With grief and shame weighed down
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns thine only crown
How pale Thou art with anguish With sore abuse and scorn
How does that visage languish Which once was bright as morn

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered Was all for sinners' gain
Oh mine was the transgression But thine the deadly pain
Lo, here I fall, my Savior 'Tis I deserve thy place
Look on me with thy favor Vouchsafe to me thy grace

What language shall I borrow To thank thee, dearest Friend
For this, thy dying sorrow Thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever And should I fainting be
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to thee

Fourth of the Shadows

Jesus is Condemned to Death

John 18: 38b-19: 16a

Deacon Sandee Chum

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. **39** But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" **40** They shouted in reply, "Not this man but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a rebel.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. **2** And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. **3** They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. **4** Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." **5** So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" **6** When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." **7** The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

8 Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. **9** He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. **10** Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" **11** Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." **12** From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar."

13 When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. **14** Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" **15** They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." **16** Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Extinguish the fourth candle

Hymn

Lamb of God

The Faith We Sing 2113

1. Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side

To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God.

[Refrain]

Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God

I love the Holy Lamb of God

Oh wash me in His precious Blood

My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

2. Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as he died.
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

3. I was so lost, I should have died,
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God

[Refrain] x2

Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God

I love the Holy Lamb of God

Oh wash me in His precious Blood

My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Fifth of the Shadows *From the Cross, Jesus Calls Forth Beloved*

Community John 19:16b-27

Alex Banish

So they took Jesus, **17** and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. **18** There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. **19** Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." **20** Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. **21** Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.' " **22** Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." **23** When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. **24** So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

25 And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **26** When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." **27** Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Extinguish the fifth candle

Prayer

Rev. Vathanak Heang

Ever Present God,
we are amazed that Jesus, nearing his death,
reached out to comfort and empower those dearest to him.
At the foot of his cross,
he called his mother and his beloved disciple into a new community.
Give us the grace and courage to join them there,
welcoming all who struggle and grieve
into this new covenant of love and grace.

For whom shall we pray,
in our world, our community, our family,
under the shadow of the cross?
(Invite prayers from the people)

Sixth of the Shadows

Jesus Dies

John 19:28-37

Renée Li

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." **29** A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. **30** When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. **31** Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. **32** Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. **33** But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. **34** Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. **35** (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth, so that you also may continue to believe.) **36** These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." **37** And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

Extinguish the sixth candle

The Shrouding of the Cross

Rev. Sunae Cho & Pastor Ivana Heang

Hymn

Were You There

UMH 288 vs 1-3

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Seventh of the Shadows *Jesus is Laid in the Tomb*

John 19: 38-42

Greg Lintao

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and removed his body. **39** Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. **40** They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. **41** Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. **42** And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Extinguish the seventh candle

Vocal Reflection *Dark was the earth with clouds*

Yvonne Chu

by Johann Michael Haydn

Dark was the earth with clouds, while Jesus was done to death on the cross.
It was about the ninth hour; then with a loud voice He cried out,
saying, my God, my God! O why hast Thou forsaken me?
Then He in anguish bow'd His head and yielded unto death.
And once more Jesus with a loud voice cried out,
Father, into Thy hand I commend my spirit.
Then again bowing His head, He yielded unto death.

Prayerful Recess

Jesus is laid in the tomb, and his followers leave him to God, in the silence and rest of Sabbath.

You are invited to leave into the shadows of this night.