

(Extinguish Christ candle)

He said, come and follow me.
We said, we have come and will follow.

*Remain in the sanctuary as long as you wish. Please remain in silence
until you have left the church building.*

Service by: Brian Donst, Fifty United Church, Winona, Ont.

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 19, 2019 at 11 a.m.

Forest Hill United Church

The **BOLD** is spoken by all

Call to Worship

Come and follow me, he says. **We have come and we will follow.** (x3)

Hymn: All Glory, Laud and Honour (verses 1 & 4)

VU 122

Reading 1: Sharing the Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-29)
Following the Way of Radical Hospitality

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The first candle of the way of Christ is the candle of radical hospitality.
Jesus welcomes all to his table, because it is a table of God's bounty.

Community in the name of Christ reaches across all kinds of barriers,
and includes even those who will hurt us.

**Radical hospitality is risky and can be dangerous, and it is the way
of Christ.**

(Extinguish first candle)

Hymn: Stay with Us through the Night

VU 182

Reading 2: Praying in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46)
Following the Way of Passionate Worship

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The second candle of the way of Christ
is the candle of passionate worship –

**passionate desire to connect with God in times of joy and in times of
sorrow, in celebration and gain, and in anguish and grief,**

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honestly seeking to know and to do God's will.

As hard and self-sacrificial a path as that may be, this is the way of Christ.

(Extinguish 2nd candle)

Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

VU 135

Reading 3: Letting Himself Be Betrayed and Arrested (Matthew 26:47-56) Following the Way of Intentional Faith Development

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The third candle of the way of Christ is the candle of intentional faith-development – **taking time and making time, and asking God to help us see where and how God is in the world,** where and how the kingdom of God is known, **where and how God and God's children act,** what kind of stance God's family takes. **As vulnerable and defenceless as the way may be, it is the way of Christ.**

(Extinguish 3rd candle)

Reading 4: Jesus is Taken to the High Priest (Matthew 26:57-75) Following the Way of Risk Taking Mission and Service

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The fourth candle of the way of Christ is the way of risk-taking mission and service – **to go where God leads, without counting the cost, to serve the good of others asking nothing in return,** if led, to go even into places of darkness and evil, **even when we can't see how we'll ever get out unscathed, for this is the way of Christ.**

(Extinguish 4th candle)

Reading 5: Jesus is Tried by Pilate (Matthew 27:1-2, 11-31)

Following the Way of Extravagant Generosity

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The fifth candle of the way of Christ is the way of extravagant generosity – **of giving one's self,** giving one's life, **giving one's time, talent and treasure,** giving one's gifts and strengths, **giving one's weakness and limits** to live out God's love for the world where the world needs to see it, **as costly as love can be, in obedience to the way of Christ.**

(Extinguish 5th candle)

Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (verses 1 & 4) VU 149

Reading 6: Jesus is Crucified (Matthew 27:32-49)

Following the Way of God's Kingdom

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The sixth candle of the way of Christ is the candle of unending trust in God – **in the midst of all that comes, in the face of all that happens** to trust in the good will and good purpose of God, to live from that silent centre of childlike trust, **even when God seems absent, even in the face of death and of dying – in the way of Christ.**

(Extinguish 6th candle)

Hymn: Were You There

VU 144

Reading 7: Jesus Dies and Is Buried (Matthew 27:50-61)

Following the Way of Christ