

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

March 29, 2024

The service of darkness commemorates the suffering and death of Christ and is based on the ancient Tenebrae. Dating from the eighth century, the Tenebrae (Shadows) represents the darkness that fell over the earth as the Son of God was crucified. The extinguishing of the candles recalls the darkening shadows of Calvary as Jesus' life was slowly extinguished.

We assemble in silence.

GATHERING LITANY

Let us remember Jesus, who, though rich, became poor and dwelt among us; who was mighty in deed, healing the sick and the troubled; who, as a teacher to his disciples, was their companion and servant.

May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done for us.

Let us remember Jesus, who prayed for the forgiveness of those who rejected him; who loved all people and prayed for them, even if they denied and rejected him; who hated sin because he knew the cost of pride and selfishness, of cruelty and hatred, both to people and to God.

May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done for us.

Let us remember Jesus, who humbled himself, obedient unto death, even death on a cross. God has exalted him who has redeemed us from the bondage of sin and given us new freedom.

May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ and what he has done for us and continues to do for us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25

SPECIAL MUSIC

12:10 pm – “*Were You There*”

7:00 pm – “*Jesus Paid it All*”

Kathy Houzner and PK
Choir

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN

IN THE GARDEN – John 18:1-12

Hymn “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (vs. 1-2) #347
The first candle is extinguished.

PETER’S DENIAL – John 18:13-27

Hymn “Ah, Holy Jesus” (vs. 1-2) #349
The second candle is extinguished.

TRIAL BEFORE PILATE – John 18:28-38a

Hymn “Ah, Holy Jesus” (vs. 3-4) #349
The third candle is extinguished.

CRUCIFY HIM! – John 18:38b—19:16a

Hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (vs. 1-2) #351
The fourth candle is extinguished.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS – John 19:16b-25a

Hymn “Were You There” (vs. 1-2) #353
The fifth candle is extinguished.

IT IS FINISHED! – John 19:25b-37

Hymn ““Were You There” (vs. 3-4)” #353
The sixth candle is extinguished.

THE BURIAL – John 19:38-42

Hymn “Were You There” (vs. 5&1) #353
The seventh candle is extinguished.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Each bid is introduced by the pastor and followed by a time for silent prayer.

Following the silence, a prayer is offered, concluding with these words:

*“We ask this through Christ our Lord.” The congregation responds: **Amen.***

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PROCESSION TO THE CROSS

Behold, the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

SPECIAL MUSIC “*How Deep the Father’s Love*” Cheryl Warming

You may come to the cross to make a sign of reverence—simply pause before the cross, bow or kneel before it in prayer—as you remember Christ’s death... for you.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

CLOSING PRAYER

O Christ, Lamb of God, on this day we offer you the adoration of our hearts, for on the cross you reveal your suffering love. May we who celebrate the triumph of the cross receive the assurance of your victory over death and the hope of the resurrection, for you live and reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May you find in the cross a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven. And may the blessing of God go with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

You may stay, meditate, and pray as long as you wish. When you leave, go in silence as you contemplate the sacrifice of Christ our Lord... and await the dawn of Easter morn.

THANK YOU for leaving your offering in the plate at the door.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

6:41am – Easter Sunrise

8:30am and 10:30am – Easter Praise

***Continental Breakfast – 9:30-1030am**

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