

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory
April 10, 2020



Good Friday Service of Tenebrae The Service of Tenebrae (Tenebrae is the Latin word for 'shadows') is a prolonged meditation of Christ's suffering. The Scripture readings trace the story of Christ's passion, the music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness display the drama of this momentous event. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death. Good Friday is not a funeral for Jesus or a type of re-enactment. It is a day of repentance over sins and a sustained reflection upon Christ's sacrifice of atonement.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

All: Who redeems us from sin and death.

Pastor: For us and for the salvation of all, Christ became obedient

unto death, even death on a cross.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure. That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure. How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away; as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders. Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished. His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom. But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection. Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.

PREDICTION

Isaiah 53; Psalm 88

PASTORAL MEDITATION

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS - Hymn #252 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

THE SHADOW OF AGONY OF SPIRIT

1st Reading: Matthew 26:36-46

THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL & ARREST

2nd Reading: Matthew 26:47-57

THE SHADOW OF DENIAL

3rd Reading: John 13:36-38; Mark 14:66-72

Congregational Response:

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us.

(Trisagion - ancient confession of the early church)

MUSICAL MEDITATION

THE SHADOW OF TRIAL & SCOURGING 4th Reading: Matthew 27:17-31

THE MESSIAH'S LAMENT Psalm 22:6-8

PASTORAL MEDITATION

STRICKEN, SMITTEN AND AFFLICTED - Hymn #257 Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see him dying on the tree! 'Tis the Christ by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he! 'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord; by his Son God now has spoken: 'tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his? Friends thro' fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress; many hands were raised to wound him, none would interpose to save; but the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Justice gave.

Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost; Christ's the Rock of our salvation, his the name of which we boast. Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt! None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION

5th Reading: John 19:16-30; Luke 23:32-43 (Lighting of the candle for the penitent thief on the cross. Traditionally the crimson cloth represents Christ's atoning blood for his salvation..)

Congregational Response: O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon me, a sinner.

OH SACRED HEAD NOW WOUNDED - Hymn #247
O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down; now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss 'til now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain: mine, 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?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

THE SHADOW OF DEATH 6th Reading: Mark 15:33-39

Congregational Response: Surely this man was the Son of God.

DECLARATION OF PRAISE

THE MESSIAH'S LAMENT Psalm 22:1-4

THE SHADOW OF PIERCING & BURIAL

7th Reading: John 19:31-36; Mark 15:43-47

MUSICAL MEDITATION

The Christ Candle is Removed Sound of the Strepitus

(A loud noise symbolizing the closing of the tomb)

Closing Prayer

A bell will be struck seven times (representing the fullness of Christ's sacrifice); afterwards the congregation is to depart in silence & darkness.

We invite you to join us in a worship celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior on Easter Sunday.

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

11 a.m. - Streaming Worship Service faithcov.com

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