



WILLIAMSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GOOD FRIDAY • APRIL 18, 2025

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

The service of Tenebrae, or “shadows,” is a traditional Good Friday service that provides a way to keep watch with Jesus during the hours leading up to his Passion. The readings from the gospel allow us to meditate on Jesus and those who surrounded him as he gave up his life.

Before us are twelve candles and one Christ candle. As the scriptures are read, the candles, representing those who surrounded Jesus, are extinguished. Finally, the Christ candle is removed or hidden and then returned after a brief time of silence to signify Jesus entering the tomb.

PRELUDE

Choral Dorian

Alain

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The hour is at hand – Jesus Christ is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

People: The hour is at hand – Jesus Christ is wounded for our transgressions.

Leader: Jesus said to his disciples, “Remain here, and stay awake with me.”

People: We keep watch with Jesus this night.

LITANY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

Leader: O crucified Jesus, Son of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, eternal Word of God,

People: we worship you.

Leader: O crucified Jesus, holy temple of God, dwelling place of the Most High, gate of heaven, burning flame of love,

People: we worship you.

Leader: O crucified Jesus, sanctuary of justice and love, full of kindness, source of all faithfulness,

People: we worship you.

(Litany continues on the next page.)

*Please in rise in body or in spirit. The people's responses are in **bold type**.

Leader: O crucified Jesus, ruler of every heart, in you are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, in you dwells all the fullness of the Godhead,

People: we worship you.

Leader: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: have mercy on us.

Leader: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: grant us peace.

Leader: Almighty God, look with mercy on your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN 212**

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

MARTYRDOM

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

THE DISCIPLES SLEEP WHILE JESUS PRAYS

READING

Matthew 26:30-46

HYMN 618 – stanzas 1 and 2

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

First candle is extinguished

THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

READING

Matthew 26:47-56

HYMN 618 – stanza 3

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

Second candle is extinguished

212 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and
 2 Was it for sins that I have done he
 3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and
 4 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the

did my Sov - ereign die! Would he de - vote that
 suf - fered on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y!
 shut its glo - ries in, when Christ, the great Re -
 debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give my -

sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I!
 Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
 deem - er, died for hu - man crea - tures' sin.
 self a - way; 'tis all that I can do.

Much like this author's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (nos. 223, 224), this more introspective treatment of Christ's crucifixion calls forth self-sacrifice from the beholder. It is set here to a tune that may well have originated as an 18th-century Scottish folk song.

JESUS BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST

READING

Matthew 26:57-68

HYMN 220 – stanza 1

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

Third candle is extinguished

HYMN 220 – stanza 2

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

Fourth candle is extinguished

PETER’S DENIAL

READING

Matthew 26:69-75

HYMN 220 – stanza 3

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

Fifth candle is extinguished

JUDAS’ DEATH

READING

Matthew 27:1-5

Sixth candle is extinguished

PILATE HANDS JESUS OVER

READING

Matthew 27:11-31

Seventh candle is extinguished

220 Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his

tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see;
 life ar - raigned; O the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay: all is sol - i - tude and gloom.

watch with him one bit - ter hour; turn not from his
 O the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - fer - ing,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete; "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is risen! He

griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

The composer intended this tune for "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (no. 438), but its solemn tone and small range make it an effective setting for this series of somber vignettes portraying what Christians can learn from Christ: to pray, to bear the cross, to die, and to rise.

ANTHEM

My Song Is Love Unknown Lauren Bristow, violin

Karen Marroli

My song is love unknown—
My Savior's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne
Salvation to bestow,
But such disdain!
So few the longed-for Christ would know!
But O, my friend, my friend indeed,
Who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes they crowd his way,
And his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify" is all their breath,
And for his death they thirst and cry.

In life, no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heaven was his home; but mine they tomb wherein he lay.

Here might I stay and sing;
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Eighth candle is extinguished

THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

READING

Matthew 27:32-44

ANTHEM

Ah, Holy Jesus
Lauren Bristow, violin

arr. John Ferguson

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I crucified thee.

Ninth candle is extinguished

READING

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Tenth candle is extinguished

JESUS DIES

READING

Matthew 27:45-50

ANTHEM

Were You There

arr. Patrick Dupré Quigley

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?

(Anthem continues on the next page.)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Eleventh candle is extinguished

THE TEMPLE CURTAIN IS TORN

READING

Matthew 27:51-54

Twelfth candle is extinguished

The Christ Candle is hidden and a bell is tolled 33 times.

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN UNISON (unison)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Christ Candle is returned after a brief silence.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Please leave the service in silence.

OUR PASTORS AND THOSE SERVING THIS EVENING

PASTORS

John E. Morgan, Pastor
Pam Hrnrcir, Associate Pastor

MUSIC MINISTRY

Christopher Bechtler, Director of Music
Norman Elton, Organist, Assistant Director of Music
WPC Chancel Choir

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lauren Bristow, violin

GREETER

Dick Hubbard, Rebecca Caprio

USHERS

Matthew Underwood, Pat Underwood

AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNICIANS

Dick Sahlen and Jchoenberger

Easter Sunday Morning • April 20

Easter Worship Services are at 8, 9:30*, and 11am** in our sanctuary.

The sermon "*Mary, the First Witness*" is based on John 20:1-18.

Please note the following changes for Sunday morning:

- Sunday School classes will not be held.
- Childcare will not be available.
- Coffee Fellowship will not be held.

***9:30am service is live-streamed on mywpc.org.**

****11:00am service is broadcast on FM93.5 The Burg and AM740.**

