

## TENEBRAE SERVICE

Good Friday, April 15, 2022

*The service of worship tonight is taken from an early  
Christian service called "Tenebrae."*

*The word "Tenebrae" is the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows."*

*As the passion story is told, the sanctuary will get progressively darker.*

*At the conclusion of the service, the Christ Candle will be carried out of the sanctuary.*

*The exit of the Candle is to symbolize Christ's death. It remains burning, however, to  
remind us that even though Christ died, God's love for us did not.*

*The candle is restored to its place, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil.*

*By this single light we all depart the service in silence.*

## GATHERING

Pastor: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**All: His mercy endures forever.**

Pastor: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may  
perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Pastor: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into this  
world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

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

Pastor: For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the  
world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

**All: Everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to  
the light. But all who do what is true come to the light.**

Pastor: Come, let us worship in spirit and truth.

## The Passion of our Lord

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your family gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus was betrayed and suffered death upon the cross. Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals as we enter the way of His passion, through Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### First Passion Reading

John 18:1-11

### Hymn

### *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

Watts/Wilson



A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my sov-'reign die?  
Was it for sins that I had done he groaned up - on the tree?



Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?  
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un-known, and love be - yond de - gree!

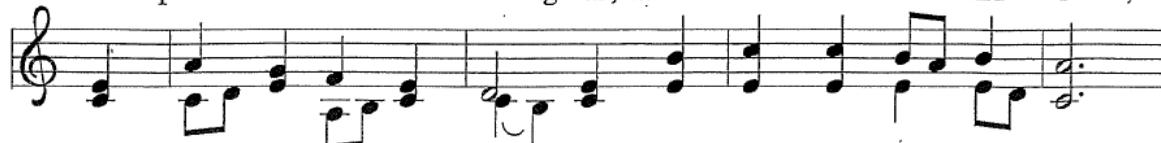
*(First candle is extinguished)*

### Second Passion Reading

John 18:12-18

**Hymn****O Sacred Head Now Wounded****Gerhardt/Bach**

O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.

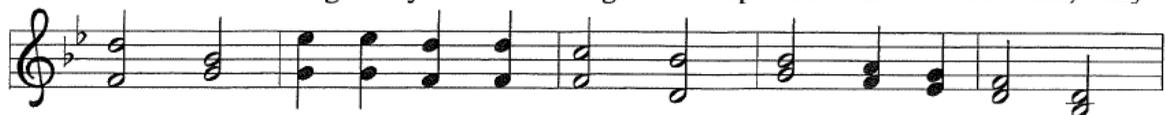
*(Second candle is extinguished)*

**Third Passion Reading****John 18:19-27****Hymn****Ah, Holy Jesus****Heermann/Bridges/Crüger**

**(Next page)**



Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.

*(Third candle is extinguished)*

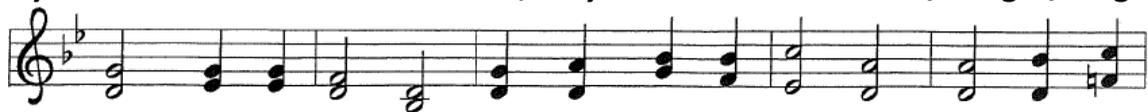
#### Fourth Passion Reading

John 18:28-38a

#### Hymn

*Ah, Holy Jesus*

Heermann/Bridges/Crüger



Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
There-fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

*(Fourth candle is extinguished)*

**Fifth Passion Reading**

**John 18:38b-19:18**

**Hymn**

***Were You There***

**African American Spiritual**



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

*Refrain*



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

(Fifth candle is extinguished)

Sixth Passion Reading

John 19:19-30

Hymn

*Were You There*



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

*Refrain*



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

(Sixth candle is extinguished)

Seventh Passion Reading

John 19:31-37

Hymn

*Were You There*



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*Refrain*



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*(Seventh candle is extinguished and the Christ Candle removed)*

### **Eighth Passion Reading**

**John 19:38-42**

*The slamming of the Book after the last hymn The Old Rugged Cross symbolizes for us Christ's death and the sealing of the tomb.*

**Hymn**

***The Old Rugged Cross***

**Bennard**

**On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suff'ring and shame,  
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain.**

**[Refrain] So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;**

(Continued next page)

**I will cling to the old rugged cross,  
And exchange it some day for a crown.**

**Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,  
Has a wondrous attraction for me;  
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above,  
To bear it to dark Calvary. [*Refrain*]**

**In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,  
A wondrous beauty I see;  
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,  
To pardon and sanctify me. [*Refrain*]**

*(The Book is slammed)*

### ***Silent Meditation***

*(Christ Candle is returned)*

### **Dismissal Blessing**

Pastor: Go in peace. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on the cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever more.

**All: Amen.**

*Please depart from this place of worship in silence.*