GOOD FRIDAY

TENEBRAE SERVICE



MARCH 29, 2024
7:00pm Sanctuary
First Presbyterian Church
Spartanburg, SC

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cry out and know,

God is listening with compassion and love.

Even when words won't come,

God knows our every need.

Even when death seems all around,

God walks with us every step of the way.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING PRAYER & 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 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.

†HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

Wondrous Love

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SHADOW OF THE AGONY OF SPIRIT

Reading Luke 22:39-46
Response Stay With Me

Stay with me; remain here with me; watch and pray. Watch and pray.

THE SHADOW OF ARREST

Reading John 18:1-8

Response This Is the Night Margaret R. Tucker

THE SHADOW OF DENIAL

Reading Matthew 26:69-75, 27:1-5

Response Ah, Holy Jesus Johann Crüger

THE SHADOW OF ACCUSATION

Reading Mark 15:1-15

Response Beneath the Cross of Jesus arr. Sondra Tucker

THE SHADOW OF MOCKERY

Reading Matthew 27:27-31

Response The Crucifixion Samuel Barber

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION

Reading Matthew 27:32-44

Response Carol of the Hill Stephen Paulus

THE SHADOW OF DEATH

Reading Luke 23:44-49

Response When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Hamburg

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?

THE CHRIST CANDLE IS REMOVED

THE SHADOW OF BURIAL

Reading Mark 15:42-46
Response Were You There? Were You There

STREPITUS

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN 227

Jesus, Remember Me Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. *REMEMBER ME*

THE CHRIST CANDLE IS RESTORED

SENDING PRAYER

May Jesus Christ, who for our sakes became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE LEAVE IN SILENCE

The congregation is invited to depart the Sanctuary in silence as they feel led.

THE MEANING OF TENEBRAE

The service of Tenebrae, meaning "darkness" or "shadows," has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Once a service for the monastic community, Tenebrae later became an important part of the worship of the common folk during Holy Week. We join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the liturgy of Tenebrae. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's suffering. Readings trace the story of Christ's passion, music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous event. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death; we remember the cataclysmic nature of his sacrifice as we hear the overwhelming sound of the "strepitus;" and through the return of the small but persistent flame of the Christ candle at the conclusion of the service, we anticipate the joy of ultimate victory.

- Calvin Institute For Christian Worship

PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Rev. Alan F. Dyer; Rev. L. Craig Foster; Dr. Lewis F. Galloway Rev. Leslie A. Lang; Rev. John Daniel DeBevoise; Rev. Ansley B. Page Holt Andrews; Marcia Andrews Chancel Choir; Handbell Choir Lisa Cunningham; Valerie MacPhail; Kathy Foster, cello

