

TENEBRAE SERVICE

A Service of Shadows

GOOD FRIDAY



PRELUDE

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,

who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

READING & HYMN OF RESPONSE

Isaiah 53

#257 | *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*

READING | **Isaiah 52:13-53:3**

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.

READING | **Isaiah 53:4-6**

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.

READING | **Isaiah 53:7-9**

Ye who think of sin but lightly, nor suppose the evil great,
here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load,
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

READING | **Isaiah 53:10-12**

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.

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HOMILY

Rev. Shiv Muthukumar

THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS

THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL | **Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16, 20-25**

#248 | *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended*, vs. 1-2

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

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

THE SHADOW OF AGONY OF SPIRIT | **Mark 14:32-42**

#248 | *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended*, vs. 3-4

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered:
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered:
for man's atonement, while he nothing heedeth,
God intercedeth.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation:
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.

THE SHADOW OF ARREST | **Luke 22:47-53**

Agnus Dei

Jesus, Lamb of God (Jesus, Lamb of God)
Jesus, Lamb of God (Jesus, Lamb of God)
Have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us;
Have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Bearer of our sins (Bearer of our sins)
Bearer of our sins (Bearer of our sins)
Have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us;
Have mercy, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God (Jesus, Lamb of God)
Jesus, Lamb of God (Jesus, Lamb of God)
Redeemer, Redeemer, grant us your peace;
Redeemer, Redeemer, grant us your peace.

Ross Hauck | Book of Common Worship | CCLI#1095616/20146299

THE SHADOW OF DENIAL | **Matthew 26:69-75**

“Judas, Peter” | Luci Shaw

THE SHADOW OF ACCUSATION | **Matthew 27:1-2, 11-18, 21-31**

#247 | *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

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 till 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.

Bernard of Clairvaux | Hans Leo Hassler | CCLI#1095616/20146299

THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION AND HUMILIATION | **Matthew 27:32-44**

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 a 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 pow'r, 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.

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THE SHADOW OF DEATH | **Matthew 27:45-54**

“Jesus Dies on the Cross” | Malcolm Guite

#252 | *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (vs. 1-3)

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?

Strepitus (earthquake)

Reflection: *Were You There?*

THE SHADOW OF BURIAL | **Mark 15:42-46**
Meditation on the Cross

SUNG RESPONSE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (vs. 4)

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts | Gregorian Chant; arr. Lowell Mason | CCLI#1095616/20146299

BENEDICTION

**The light shines in the darkness,
but the darkness has not overcome it.**

TENEBRAE SERVICE

The service of Tenebrae, meaning “darkness” or “shadows,” is a centuries-old worship practice which borrows its symbolism from the “darkness over the whole land” at the time of the crucifixion (Luke 23:44). Consequently, Tenebrae services are a prolonged meditation on the suffering of Christ and his atoning work on the Cross. Through the passion narratives of the Gospels, music of his pathos, the progressive darkness of the service, silence, and prayer, we have an opportunity to understand the nature and cost of sin, as well as the persevering love of Christ for his people. Near the end of the service the overwhelming sound of the “strepitus,” or earthquake, marks the cataclysmic end of that era before Christ had reconciled to himself all things, making peace by the blood of his Cross (Colossians 1:20). And finally, though the flame of the Christ candle is removed as a sign of burial, it is never extinguished. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it (John 1:5)!

Easter Services:

8:30a Outdoor Service | 11a Sanctuary Service

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Pastors Eric Irwin, Shiv Muthukumar

Church Planting Resident, Andrew Perkins

SCRIPTURE READINGS: The Holy Bible, English Standard Version © 2001 Crossway Bibles

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COVER IMAGE: Agnus Dei | Francisco de Zurbaran