

Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness

MARCH 28, 2024

6:30 P.M.

BELLS OF GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

“Were You There?”

arr. Carol Tornquist

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 across the globe 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.

Please enter in silence.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, for the Word of God prepares us for all that is to take place.

All: We come, with hearts made ready, and ears made open.

One: Come, for our Lord has prepared a table for us, even in the presence of His enemies.

All: We come, hungry for the food from heaven, and the wine of new life.

One: Come, for the Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world is here.

All: We dare to come, even though His death draws near.

*HYMN No. 202

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4:32-34; 6:33-35

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We, who would sit at Your table, we have denied knowing You by turning away from injustice and suffering, by our bent toward retaliation, and by our hostile words.

Lord, forgive us, for we do not know what we do.

We, who call ourselves Your disciples, we have betrayed You with our unconscious arrogance and our rigid judgments; our envy of another's gifts, and our self-absorption.

Lord, forgive us, for we do not know what we do.

We, who would receive Your body broken and Your blood, we have denied You with our gluttony and our waste, our lack of joy, and our failure to see Your beauty in the humble.

Lord, forgive us, for we do not know what we do.

We, who gather to worship You, we have betrayed You by withholding ourselves from You, just as we would hinder You from the tomb through which You would claim love's final victory.

Lord, forgive us, for we do not know what we do.

CHORAL KYRIE

“Wayfarer's Kyrie”

M. Davis

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SUNG RESPONSE

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

(215)

***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!***

***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!***

The Supper

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Please remain seated until directed by an usher ~ approach and encircle the table. When you receive the Element, partake, and pass to your neighbor, saying if you wish, “the Body of Christ”, and then “the Cup of salvation”. When all have partaken, you may return to your pew by the side aisle.

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread

Prayer after Communion

Tenebrae: Our Lord's path into darkness

SCRIPTURE READING

John 12:23-28

SPIRITUAL SONGS

“Come and Fill Our Hearts” & “In My Life”

(466, 468)

***Come and fill our hearts with Your peace. You alone, O lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with Your peace. Come and fill us with Your truth.
Come and dwell within, Holy One. Come and bear Your fruit within us.
Come and dwell within, Lord of love. Come and glorify Your name.***

***In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified. In my life, Lord, be glorified today.
In Your church, lord, be glorified; be glorified. In Your church, Lord, be glorified today.
In Your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified. In Your world, Lord, be glorified today.***

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:14-23

SPIRITUAL SONG

“Kum ba Yah”

(472)

***I am here, O Lord, kum ba yah... O Lord, kum ba yah.
One betrays You, Lord, is it I?... O Lord, is it I?
Keep my heart, O Lord, I am Yours... O Lord, keep my heart.***

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:24-27

HYMNS

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

(738)

***O Master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free;
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
Teach me Thy patience, still with Thee in closer, dearer company;
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.***

“Make Me a Servant”

2176 (STF)

***Make me a servant, humble and meek; Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be: make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.***

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:31-34

SUNG PRAYER NO. 426

“Search Me, O God” (Choir, then **All** repeat)

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 14:32-42

MAUNDY THURSDAY MEDITATION

“As You Wish”

Mike Shelton

CHORAL MEDITATION

“Thy Will Be Done”

C. Courtney

Our cup was filled with darkness. Our cup was filled with death. Christ took our cup and drank it, and gave us life, and gave us hope, gave us Himself. “My Father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.” In blackest night we hear Him in dark Gethsemane, pleading with the Father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day. “My Father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.” Then they took our Savior, and led Him to a tree; and there they broke His body, poured out His life, put Him to death, to rise again! “My Father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, but Thine be done.”