



GOOD FRIDAY

ORDER OF WORSHIP | APRIL 10, 2020

The service of Tenebrae, meaning “darkness” or “shadows,” has been celebrated by the church since medieval times. Once a service for monastic communities, Tenebrae later became an important part of Holy Week. Tenebrae features readings from scripture that retell the story of Christ’s passion, followed by the extinguishing of candles. As the sanctuary descends into darkness, we remember the depth of Christ’s suffering and death. At the end of the service, the darkness is pierced by the relighting of the Christ candle, which anticipates the joy of the coming resurrection.

Prelude

“Ah, Holy Jesus”
Judy Kabodian, piano

arr. Craig Courtney

Welcome to The Peoples Church!

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Call to Worship

One: Beloved, today we gather in the shadow of the cross.
We listen, we remember, we mourn.
Can we bear to recall the story of this day?

All: By the grace of God, we can.

One: We remember the meal shared with his friends.
We remember the new covenant of broken bread and sacred cup.
We remember his prayers, his tears, his betrayal.
Are we able to hear this story of sorrow?

All: By the grace of God, we are.

One: There is betrayal. There is denial. There is despair.
For the sake of love, the Lamb of God will suffer and die.
Can you bear to remember all the events of this day?

All: By the grace of God, we can.

One: Then let us praise God, even in this hour of darkness.

All: Let us give thanks and praise for the love of God shown in these events.

Centering Music

“Go to Darkness Gethsemane” (verse 2)

No. 220

*Follow to the judgement hall; view the Lord of life arraigned; O the wormwood and the gall!
O the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.*

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry and too real to hide. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Reflection on Good Friday

<i>Solo</i>	<i>"He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word"</i> <i>Christine Roberts, mezzo-soprano</i>	arr. Moses Hogan
<i>First Reading</i>	Shadow of Betrayal	Matthew 26:20-25
<i>Second Reading</i>	Shadow of Desertion	Matthew 26:31-35
<i>Special Music</i>	<i>"O Sacred Head Now Wounded"</i>	arr. Laura Wasson
<i>Third Reading</i>	Agony of the Soul	Luke 22:39-44
<i>Fourth Reading</i>	Unshared Vigil	Mark 14:32-41
<i>Special Music</i>	<i>"When Jesus Wept"</i>	
<i>Fifth Reading</i>	Father, The Hour is Come	John 17:1-6
<i>Sixth Reading</i>	That They May All Be One	John 17:15-22
<i>Special Music</i>	<i>"What Wondrous Love Is This"</i>	arr. John Purifoy
<i>Seventh Reading</i>	Arrest at the Gate	John 18:1-5
<i>Eighth Reading</i>	Shadow of the Cross	Mark 15:16-20
<i>Solo</i>	<i>"Were You There?"</i> <i>Joe Kennedy, bass-baritone</i>	arr. Moses Hogan

Extinguishing of the Christ Candle

Tolling of the Bell

Darkness and Silence

Final Reading John 1:1-5

Depart in Silence