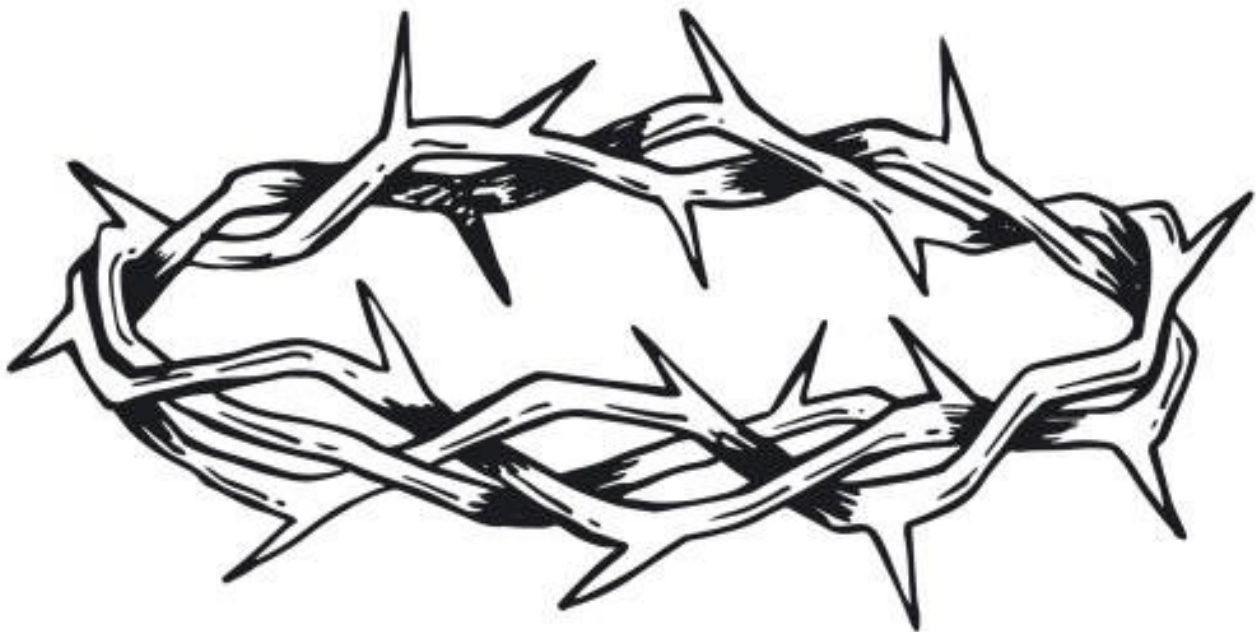


Tenebrae

A Service of Shadows

March 29, 2024



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 day. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death; we remember the cataclysmic nature of his sacrifice.

Words of Greeting

Prelude

Call to Worship*

We gather silently

SILENCE

We carry the weight of Jesus' death as we worship on this holy night.

Opening Hymn*

ELW803

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Confession of Sin*

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Silent Confession of Sin

God of mercy,

We admit to you, to ourselves, and to this community that we have caused harm to others through our actions and through our failure to act. Give us the humility to accept our failings and to make things right where we can. Forgive us and help us to forgive ourselves. Amen.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. In that love, God forgives you all your sin for the sake of our savior, Jesus Christ.

We offer to God our thanks and praise.

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray. O God of this Quiet Night, we gather to pray for the church, our community, and all those in need.

SILENCE

Ah, holy Jesus, this is the day we have been dreading. Silence the fears of our hearts and hold us close to your wounded side, that we never lose sight of how much you care for us. Beloved Lord, **You hear our prayer.**

Ah, holy Jesus, we have knowingly participated in the evil and brokenness of this world. In unfathomable love you gave your life to heal that brokenness. Keep us ever mindful of what you have endured out of love for us. Beloved Lord, **You hear our prayer.**

Ah, holy Jesus, we have knowingly made choices that have harmed your creation. Draw us back to your very first commandment: that we may be faithful stewards of all you have made. Beloved Lord, **You hear our prayer.**



Ah, holy Jesus, give us the humility to see where we have turned away from the suffering of others. Strengthen us to show up in solidarity with victims of injustice, oppression, and state violence.

Beloved Lord,

You hear our prayer.

Ah, holy Jesus, so many of God's children suffer from afflictions of body, mind, or spirit. Uplift them with your healing grace. Beloved Lord,

You hear our prayer.

Ah, holy Jesus, strip us of our pride, that we might reach out in love to all the world's people, knowing that you died for each and every one of us, without exception. Beloved Lord,

You hear our prayer.

We lift up these prayers to you, holy Jesus, as we pray together as you taught us.

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



Service of Shadows

The Meaning of This Night

Shadow of Betrayal: Matthew 26:20-25

Shadow of Desertion: Matthew 26:31-35

Agony of the Soul: Luke 22:39-44

Unshared Vigil: Mark 14:32-41

Hymn (seated)

ELW347

Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - tered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



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,
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



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



“Father the hour is come”: John 17:1-6

“That they may all be one”: John 17:15-22

Arrest in the Garden: John 18:1-5

Choir Anthem

At the Cross Watts/McDonald

Shadow of the Cross: Mark 15:16-20

Carrying the Cross: Luke 23:26-32

“Father, forgive them”: Luke 23:34-43

Hymn (seated)

ELW338

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.



Shadow of Death: John 19:25b-30

Shadow of the Tomb: Matthew 27:51-66

The Word was God: John 1:1-5, 10-14

Hymn

ELW353

Were You There



- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



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 when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

Benediction

You are invited to depart in silence. Blessings to you on the holy night.



