



Good Friday Tenebrae Service

APRIL 3, 2026
6:30 pm

Welcome to CHRIST THE REDEEMER

We're glad you're here. Whether you have followed Jesus your whole life or you can't remember the last time you stepped foot in a church, we want you to feel welcome to come as you are and worship with our church family. If you have any questions about our church or where to find something, please don't hesitate to ask. We're excited about what God is doing among us as we seek to live, grow and serve as followers of Jesus in Portland and in our surrounding neighborhoods. So, welcome to CTR, we'd love to have you as a part of our family.

What is "Tenebrae"?

The last week of Jesus' humiliation served as the culmination of his ministry. After his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus continued to teach the crowds and work with his disciples as he journeyed to the cross. Tenebrae is a specific service that focuses on the cross and the death of Jesus. We are invited into the story to truly feel the sadness and sorrow of Christ's death, so that we may rejoice in his resurrection all the more.

TENEBRAE: THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS

"Tenebrae" is a Latin word meaning "shadows." Throughout the service, candles are extinguished, and the darkness grows as each portion of the story of Christ's suffering and death is told.

Each reading is followed by a song, a responsive reading, or a period of silence. The darkness grows until finally, when Jesus is laid in the tomb and the stone is rolled over the entrance, all lights are extinguished, and the church lies in total darkness. After a period of darkness, a single candle will be lit to remind us of Christ's love and the foundation of our hope.

The purpose of Tenebrae is to vividly portray the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of these events, yet we leave with the story unfinished. The story doesn't end here, but the darkness of this night gives way to the irreversible sunrise of Easter morning. The service ends with only enough light for the congregation to exit safely. We encourage you to leave in silence as you consider the death of Christ as we wait for with longing for the joy of Easter morning.

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2026

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND PREPARATION

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts
Lead Pastor, Christ the Redeemer

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Joel Wentz
Pastor, Missio Dei

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]
O Come, O Come Emmanuel [Lent]

SCRIPTURE READING
Isaiah 52:13-53:12 ESV

Read by Rev. Dan Wolf
Pastor, Rise Church

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]
The Power of the Cross

FIRST GOSPEL READING IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:1-12

VOCAL SOLO REFLECTION
Gethsemane Hymn

Sarah Bailey

FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

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SECOND GOSPEL READING
JESUS TRIED AND PETER'S DENIAL

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:13-27

SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

SUNG MEDITATION [COMBINED CHOIR]
Trisagion

Soloist: Libby Morse
with Congregational Part

THIRD GOSPEL READING
JESUS BEFORE PILATE

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:28-19:3a

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]
Man of Sorrows! What a Name!

THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

FOURTH GOSPEL READING
PILATE DELIVERS JESUS TO CRUCIFIXION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:4-16a

SILENT MEDITATION

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SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]

What Wondrous Love Is This

FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

FIFTH GOSPEL READING

JESUS CRUCIFIED AT GOLGOTHA

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:16b-17

SILENT MEDITATION

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]

Jesus Paid It All

SIXTH GOSPEL READING

JESUS CRUCIFIED AMONG THIEVES

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:18

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]

Jesus Remember Me

SILENT MEDITATION

FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

SEVENTH GOSPEL READING
PILATE DECLARES JESUS “KING OF THE JEWS”

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:19-23a

SILENT MEDITATION

SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

EIGHTH GOSPEL READING
THE SOLDIERS CAST LOTS AND JESUS SEES MARY

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:23b-27

SUNG MEDITATION [Congregation]
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

SEVENTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

NINTH GOSPEL READING
JESUS THIRSTS AND DECLARES “IT IS FINISHED”

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:28-30a

VOCAL MEDITATION [Chamber Choir]
Behold the Cross of Christ
Violin: Katie Kirby

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TENTH GOSPEL READING
JESUS DIES

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:30b

SILENT MEDITATION

EIGHTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

ELEVENTH GOSPEL READING
THE SOLDIERS PIERCE JESUS' SIDE

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:32-37

SILENT MEDITATION

TWELFTH GOSPEL READING
JESUS IS BURIED

SCRIPTURE READING

John 19:38-42

NINTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

COMPLETE DARKNESS

SONG OF LONGING [Sarah Bailey]
O Come, O Come Emmanuel

THE CANDLE OF HOPE

[SILENCE]

We conclude our service tonight in silence.

Please feel free to continue in prayer if you'd like as we mourn the death of Christ.

As you exit, please do so in silence.

We welcome you to one of our churches this Sunday as the darkness of this evening is chased away by Jesus' resurrection and victory on Easter morning – the sunrise that can never be extinguished.

Thank you for joining us. We are glad you did.

DRAMATIC READING CAST

Narrator.....	<i>Neil Schenk</i>
Jesus.....	<i>Matthew Reid</i>
Pilate.....	<i>Bob Mancini</i>
Peter.....	<i>Ken Jones</i>
Roman Soldier.....	<i>Dan Andreassen</i>
Slave.....	<i>Barbara Mancini</i>
Woman.....	<i>Arrika Noe</i>

READING OF ISAIAH

Rev. Dan Wolf

MUSICIANS & VOCALISTS

Music Director, Pianist.....	<i>Kendra Hollen</i>
Choral Director.....	<i>Sarah Bailey</i>
Vocalist/Soloist.....	<i>Sarah Bailey</i>
<i>Soloist</i>	<i>Libby Morse</i>
<i>Violin</i>	<i>Katie Kirby</i>
Violin.....	<i>Kevin Jones</i>
Trumpet.....	<i>Joel Cohen</i>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT, PUBLICITY, AND CHILDCARE

Sound & Projection.....	<i>Quincy Freeman & Ian Maines</i>
Lights.....	<i>Alden Groves</i>
Candles.....	<i>Isla Roberts</i>
Programs.....	<i>Cheryl Sullivan</i>
Childcare Coordination.....	<i>Abby Reid</i>
Greeters.....	<i>Trevor Brown, Emma Holloway</i>
.....	<i>Matthew Holloway</i>
Childcare.....	<i>Odia Mwamba, Volunteers from Rise Church</i>



**CHRIST
THE REDEEMER**
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church
longs to be a diverse people who gather around
and extend the table of God's grace.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM

Reverend Sean J.S. Roberts, Lead Pastor

E-mail: SRoberts@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 956.207.1398

Reverend Alden D. Groves, Associate Pastor

E-mail: AGroves@CTRPortland.org
Tel. 215.704.0132

Kendra Hollen, Music Ministry Director

[E-Mail: khollen@CTRPortland.org]

Amanda McKrell, Director of Community Development

[E-mail: amckrell@CTRPortland.org]

Abby Reid, Children's Ministry Director & Connections Coordinator

[E-Mail: areid@CTRPortland.org]

Cheryl Sullivan, Administrator

[E-Mail: ctr@CTRPortland.org]

In need of assistance?

If you're experiencing a material need beyond what you can manage, the CTR Deacons may be able to help. Please call them at 207-331-1304 or email deacons@ctrportland.org. All inquiries will remain confidential, and you will receive a reply within twenty-four hours.

CTR is located at

61 NEAL STREET, PORTLAND, ME 04102

207.878.1211 | <https://ctrportland.org>