

Peace Lutheran Church
GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE
Friday, March 29, 2024 + 1:30 & 6:30 PM

This service of darkness, also known as "Tenebrae" (a Latin word meaning "darkness"), is a Holy Week devotion dating back to the 7th or 8th century A.D. The service is divided into seven parts, each highlighting our Lord's suffering and death for us. After each part, a candle will be extinguished. Near the conclusion of the service, the last candle will be removed, symbolizing our Lord's death and burial. The "Strepitus" is heard, a harsh noise indicating the closing of the tomb. The last candle is returned to its place in anticipation of our Lord's resurrection.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

INVOCATION

- L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**
L: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
(Hebrews 12:2)
C: **For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)**

OPENING HYMN

"O Perfect Life of Love"

LSB 452 v. 1-5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Jesus was led to the Place of the Skull, Golgotha, where He died for the sins of the world, for your sins and mine. Let us confess our sins and ask forgiveness for His sake.
C: **Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words and actions. We turn from Your will and follow the temptations of the devil and the world and our own sinful desires. Turn to us in mercy and forgive our sins.**
L: Since Jesus has gone to the cross in our place, all our sins are forgiven. In the name and for the sake of our Savior Jesus, I as a called and ordained servant of The Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 22

- L: My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
- C: **O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.**
- L: Yet You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- C: **In You our fathers trusted; they trusted, and You delivered them.**
- L: But I am a worm and not a man, scorned and despised by the people.
- C: **All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads; "He trusts in the Lord; let Him deliver him; let Him rescue him, for He delights in him!"**
- L: They have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me;
- C: **They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.**
- L: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.
- C: **For kingship belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations.**

SERMON HYMN

"Upon the Cross Extended"

LSB 453 v. 1, 3-5

SERMON

"Face To Face With..."
John 18:17—19:37

Pastor Jarod Fenske

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

LORD'S PRAYER

TENEBRAE OBSERVANCE

I. The Arrest of Jesus John 18:1-11

- N: When He had finished praying, Jesus left with His disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and He and His disciples went into it. Now Judas, who betrayed Him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples. So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns, and weapons. Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to Him, went out and asked them,
- J: "Who is it you want?"
- C: **"Jesus of Nazareth!"**

J: "I am He."
 N: And Judas the traitor was standing there with them. When Jesus said, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. Again He asked them,
 J: "Who is it you want?"
C: "Jesus of Nazareth."
 J: "I told you that I am He. If you are looking for Me, then let these men go."
 N: This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those You gave Me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus commanded Peter,
 J: "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given Me?"

(The first candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

LSB 436 v. 1-3

II. The Darkness of False Religion Mark 14:53-65

N: They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, elders and teachers of the law came together. Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him:
C: "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this man-made temple and in three days will build another, not made by man.' "
 N: Yet even then their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him,
C: "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"
 J: "I am, and you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."
 N: The high priest tore his clothes.
C: "Why do we need any more witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?"
 N: They all condemned him as worthy of death. Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy!" And the guards took him and beat him.

(The second candle is extinguished.)

SOLO

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Jason Moore

III. The Darkness of Denial Mark 14:66-72, Luke 22:58

N: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. She said, "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus."

C: **"I don't know or understand what you're talking about."**

N: A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But again he denied it.

C: **"Man, I am not!"**

N: After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." He began to call down curses on himself, and he swore to them:

C: **"I don't know this man you're talking about."**

N: Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the words Jesus had spoken to him:

J: "Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times."

N: And he broke down and wept.

(The third candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

"What Wondrous Love Is This?"

LSB 543 v. 1&3

IV. The Darkness of Injustice Luke 23:1-4,13-24; Matt. 27:27-31

N: Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying,

C: **"We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Christ, a king."**

N: So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

J: "Yes, it is as you say."

N: Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man." Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him." With one voice they cried out,

C: **"Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!"**

N: Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting,

C: **"Crucify him! Crucify him!"**

N: For the third time he spoke to them: "Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him." But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand. Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him.

C: **"Hail, king of the Jews!"**

N: They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

(The fourth candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"

LSB 451 v. 1 & 3

V. The Darkness of the Cross Luke 23:26-38

N: As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them,

J: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

N: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said,

J: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

N: And they divided up his clothes by casting lots. The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said,

C: **"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."**

N: The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said,

C: **"If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."**

N: There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

LSB 449 v. 1 & 2

VI. *The Darkness of Suffering* *Luke 23:39-43; John 19:25-30; Mark 15:33-34*

- N: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him:
C: **“Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!”**
N: But the other criminal rebuked him.
C: **“Don't you fear God, since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”**
N: Then he said,
C: **“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”**
N: Jesus answered him,
J: “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”
N: Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to his mother,
J: “Dear woman, here is your son,”
N: and to the disciple,
J: “Here is your mother.”
N: From that time on, this disciple took her into his home. At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,
J: “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?”
N: which means,
J: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
N: Knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said,
J: “I am thirsty.”
N: A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

(The sixth candle is extinguished.)

HYMN

“Were You There”

LSB 456 v. 1-3

VII. *The Darkness of Death* *Matthew 27:54; John 19:30-37; Luke 23:45-49*

- N: When he had received the drink, Jesus said,

J: "It is finished."
N: The curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice,
J: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."
N: When he had said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed,
C: "Surely this was the Son of God!"
N: When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. These things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of His bones will be broken," and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced." Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST IS REMOVED

The pastor takes the last candle, which symbolizes the death and burial of Jesus, out of the sanctuary.

THE STREPITUS

A book is slammed down on a hard surface as a reminder of the sealing of the tomb.

THE CANDLE IS RETURNED

The pastor returns the lighted candle to remind us that even death, darkness, and the faces of evil shall not prevail against the light of Christ.

DEPART IN SILENCE

In loving memory and in honor of what Jesus Christ has done for our salvation, the congregation is requested to maintain silence as you leave the church until you reach your cars. May you sincerely meditate upon your sins which brought about this night. Return in joy on Sunday morning to celebrate His Resurrection.