

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

March 29, 2024 Good Friday **Tenebrae – Service of Shadows**

~ *Our Values* ~ **Christ First – Inviting – Joyful – Open-Minded**

~ *Our Mission Statement* ~ Inspired by the love of Christ, we are building a community that invites our neighbors into a relationship with God and each other.

Tolling of the Bell

*Call to Worship

On this night we contemplate the good news of the cross:

how Christ our Lord stretched out his arms

to embrace a world of suffering and sin;

how Christ our Lord stretched out his arms

to save us.

*Prayer

Holy God, you gave your Son to suffer the shame of the cross.

Save us from hardness of heart, that, seeing him who died for us,

we may repent, confess our sin, and receive your overflowing love,

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn 97

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Shadow of Betrayal

Matthew 26:1-25

Silence

Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, our sins are too heavy to carry,

too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name

and what our hearts can no longer bear,

for we have betrayed you.

Our selfish acts, they condemn you.

Let us truly see how your love responds to our hate.

Let us truly see how your faithfulness responds to our faithlessness.

Silent Prayers

O Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Shadow of Aloneness

Matthew 26:31-56

Silence

Song

Stay with Me

Taize

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray.

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray.

Shadow of Denial

Matthew 26:57-75

Silence

*Hymn 93

Ah, Holy Jesus

Shadow of Accusation

Matthew 27:1-2, 11-26

Silence

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Giver of life, we wait with you to offer the hope

that comes from the cross to earth's darkest places.

Where pain is deep and affection is denied: **let love break through.**

Where justice is destroyed, **let sensitivity to right spring up.**

Where hope is crucified, **let faith persist.**

Where peace has no chance, **let passion live on.**

Where truth is trampled underfoot, **let the struggle continue.**

Where fear paralyzes, **let forgiveness break through.**

Eternal God,

reach into the silent darkness of our souls with the radiance of the cross.

O you who are the bearer of all pain, **have mercy on us.**

Giver of life, **have mercy on us.**

Merciful God, **have mercy on us.**

Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Shadow of Crucifixion

Isaiah 53:1-6

Hymn 98

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Matthew 27: 27-44

Silence

Choir Anthem

See How He Dies!

Robert Lau

Shadow of Death

Psalms 22:1-2, 6-8, 14-18

*Hymn 85

What Wondrous Love is This

Matthew 27:45-54

Darkness

Silence

Shadow of Burial

Matthew 27:57-66

Silence

Duet

Were You There?

After the Shadows

Revelation 5:5-14

Re-Entry of the Christ Candle

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Blessing

*The Sanctuary will remain a place of prayer.
When you are ready, go in silence.*

*Holy Week continues Easter Sunday Morning, March 31st at 10AM
(Community Easter Egg Hunt 11:15AM)*

A NOTE ABOUT THE SERVICE

The service of worship tonight is taken from an early Christian service called Tenebrae, the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows." Tonight, we will experience only a small portion of Christ's pain and suffering the day of His crucifixion. One of the most conspicuous features of the service is the gradual extinguishing of candles until only a single candle, the Christ candle, remains. As it gets darker and darker we can reflect on the great emotional and physical pain that was very real for Jesus that evening. Toward the end of the service, the Christ candle is hidden, typifying the apparent victory of the forces of evil over good. At the very end, a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of his death (Matthew 27) and his resurrection (Matthew 28:2). At the moment of the earthquake, the temple veil was torn apart, making the Holy of Holies exposed to public view. This is understood to represent God's change toward us with direct access to him, no longer requiring the ceremonial acts of the priests for our forgiveness of sin. The hidden candle is then restored to its place, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil. By this light we all depart this service in silence.

Readers: Rev. Robin Morgan, Robert Cochran, Rick Borger **Media:** Lew Sauerwein & Jim Reilly **Sound and Lighting:** Johnathan Shuey **Music** led by Director Carole Haines, Organist, Lisa Meyer, Chancel Choir; Duet: Robin Gries & MaryLynne Mulligan