

Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

March 28, 2024 8:00 p.m.



A Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service IN THE DARKNESS...LIGHT

PRELUDE Invocation

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D. Bédard

CHORAL INTROIT Kyrie eleison

WORDS OF DECLARATION

*Hymn of Approach #284 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded PASSION CHORALE

***WORDS OF INVOCATION**

THE UPPER ROOM

Love Poured Out John 13:1-5, 12-17, 31-35

Anthem With the Body that was Broken

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Bread and the Cup All are welcome to the Lord's Table

Instrumental Meditation

The First Supper

A. Pärt

PICARDY

THE SHADOWS

The Shadow of Certitude

Matthew 26:30-35

Prayer of Confession and Humility

Lord Jesus, We confess that we fail you and desert you. We betray you with our thoughts, words and deeds. We boast with certainty and we boast of our self-sufficiency. Hear our cries for mercy, and keep us humble in these final days of our Lenten journey. (silent reflection)

Words of Assurance

*Hymn #386 Lord Jesus Think On Me	SOUTHWELL	Readers: Gary & Cheryl Krueger; FBC Adult Choir; Jerrold Eilander, organist; Katie Lam, guest conductor;
The Shadow of the Garden	Matthew 26:36-46	Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.
Anthem On the Mount of Olives	E. Daley	Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-625688. All rights reserved.

The Shadow of Betrayal *Hymn	Matthew 26:47-56		
#262 Ah! Holy Jesus	HERZLIEBSTER JESU		
The Shadow of Accusation *Hymn	Matthew 26:57-68		
#263 Alas! and Did My Savio	r Bleed MARTYRDOM		
The Shadow of Desertion *Hymn	Matthew 26:69-75		
#261 When I Survey the Wor	ndrous Cross HAMBURG		
The Shadow of Trial and Shame Matthew 27:1-2,11-14,20-31			
Anthem Wondrous Love, Wondrous C	Cross J.M. Martin		
The Shadow of Crucifixion and Death			
Anthem	Matthew 27:32-50		
Beneath the Cross of Jesus	arr. H.H. Hopson		
Song of the Suffering Serva	ant Isaiah 53:4-9		
Jesus, Remember Me	Taizé Community		
The Christ Candle is removed from the Sanctuary. We exit in silence and quiet reflection.			

* please stand as you are able

A MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

In many church traditions Maundy Thursday is a time for celebration and remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. The Upper Room was the place where breaking bread gained new meaning when Jesus said "Remember me." This first meal established the Lord's Supper as a gathering point for Christian worship in community. Our service tonight points to the wonder and mystery of all subsequent meals eaten in Jesus' name.

The service this evening is also a Tenebrae service, which calls to mind the suffering and death of Jesus. Dating from the 8th century, Tenebrae was originally celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of Holy Week. Tenebrae, the Medieval Latin word for *darkness*, is a service in which light fades into shadow and dark, as the sanctuary is gradually dimmed. We mark this path of shadows with scripture and song. As each candle is extinguished we press deeper into the story of Jesus' suffering. In the end only one candle remains, and the Christ candle is removed from the sanctuary as a symbol of Jesus' death. *The congregation then leaves the darkened sanctuary in quiet reflection.*

This practice is symbolic of the darkness that fell over the earth as the Son of God was betrayed, denied, handed over, crucified and buried. This service is also a reminder that nothing can separate us from the love of God. The Spirit of Christ is with us in the darkest places. Even in our darkest hour, *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it."*

Tonight's movement to darkness engages our imagination, and prepares us to receive the Light of Easter morning. Walking this somber path, we anticipate the joyous news of the resurrection. The Christ candle will return during the Easter Sunday Service, a sign of the Lord Jesus raised to new life.