



Welcome to Maundy Thursday worship, when we hear again our Lord's command to love as He does.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP MAUNDY THURSDAY/TENEBRAE OBSERVANCE

April 17, 2025 7:00 p.m.

Gathering and Confession

Processional Hymn

#223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God; all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

† Call to Worship

Mitch Hall

Leader: Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

People: This He said to His disciples, after washing their feet and having supper with them.

Leader: Tonight, we remember that night and those words.

People: Above all, we remember His breaking of the bread and His pouring of the wine, symbols of His imminent death.

Leader: O God, let this service of remembrance sober us of any illusions we may have about our own courage and faithfulness.

People: Help us to realize our entire dependence on His courage, His faithfulness, His forgiveness.

Leader: With contrite hearts, let us hail the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,

People: For through His sacrifice for us we are pardoned and healed. Amen.

† Prayer of Confession and Pardon

Rev. William Pollack

L: My brothers and sisters, Christ has shown us His love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of His spirit. Let us pray:

P: Ever gracious God, we gather this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks of a bitter and broken world. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us in the breaking of the bread of our need and of your sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to you in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. As the night advances, deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

L: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But He suffered and died for us, raised from the dead and ascended on high for us and continues to intercede for us. Believe the Good News: in the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† The Service of the Lord †

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 12:21–27 Mitch Hall

L: The Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

† Gospel Lesson: Mark 14:32–39 Rev. William Pollack

L: This is the Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ.

P: Thanks be to Christ!

Homily

His Prayer for Us

Communion Anthem

Chancel Choir

Cross Of Jesus Howard Helvey

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow, where the blood of Christ was shed, Perfect Man of thee did suffer, perfect God on thee has bled. Here the King of all the ages, throned in light ere worlds could be. Robed in mortal flesh is dying, crucified by sin for me.

O mysterious condescending! O abandonment sublime! Very God, Himself is bearing all the sufferings of time!

† The Lord's Supper †

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Matthew 26:20-29

Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

(We will receive Holy Communion through intinction. Please come to the servers and receive the bread and dip in the cup. Following communion, please return to your seat in a spirit of reflection.)

Prayer After Communion

† The Service of Tenebrae †

Introduction to the Tenebrae

Matthew 26:30–46 Ellen Sharp

Matthew 26:47–56 Kim Whitman

Hymn #220 (1)

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power; your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with Him one bitter hour; turn not from His griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Matthew 26:57–75 Kris Adkins

Matthew 27:1–10 Heather Whitman

Hymn #228

Were You There?

Were you there when they all betrayed my Lord?
Were you there when they all betrayed my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they all betrayed my Lord?

Matthew 27:11–23 Nancy Compton

Matthew 27:24–31 Heather Shay

Hymn #228 (1)

Were You There?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Matthew 27:32–44 JT Norris

Hymn #228 (2)

Were You There?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Matthew 27:45–56 Ryan Whitman

Hymn #228 (4)

Were You There?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Matthew 27:57-60

Rev. William Pollack

Hymn #228 (5)

Were You There?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Closing Anthem

Chancel Choir

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Gilbert Martin

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?
Was it for crimes that I have done He suffered on the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!
Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut His glories in,
When Christ, the great Redeemer, died for man the creature's
sin. But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do

Choir Recessional following the Christ Candle

(Stripping of the Sanctuary)

Closing Words

(Please depart in silence in refection of Christ's death and burial.)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

he day before Good Friday is called Maundy Thursday. The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin word Mandatum, which means "commandment." In the gospel of John,



Jesus makes this statement during the Last Supper: "I am with you only a little longer. ... I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another. (John 13:33-35, NRSV)

Maundy Thursday should always be a time of sharing with others, showing loving concern for one another, and partaking of Holy Communion. That is what the Lord asked of his disciples and asks of us.

TENEBRAE SERVICE

enebrae (Latin for "darkness" or "shadows") is an ancient Christian tradition that recreates the emotions of Jesus' Passion and death. The sanctuary



gradually grows darker. As the service concludes, the Christ candle is extinguished as a reminder of Jesus' death. We will leave with the hope of Easter in our hearts.

When Scottish missionary Peter Milne died in 1924, the thankful people he'd served in the South Pacific inscribed this message on his headstone: "When he came, there was no light; when he died, there was no darkness."

Death's darkness couldn't conquer Jesus, the light of the world, so it does not conquer us. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5, ESV).

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