



New Life Presbyterian Church

Embrace God's Beauty; Extend God's Love

Worshiping God

April 2, 2021 – Good Friday

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

The service of Tenebrae, meaning “darkness” or “shadows,” has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Today we join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the Tenebrae format. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ’s suffering and death, for us and for our salvation.

Reflection:

No scene in sacred history ever gladdens the soul like the scene on Calvary. Nowhere does the soul find such consolation as on that very spot where misery reigned, where woe triumphed, where agony reached its climax. – C.H. Spurgeon

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

– The Apostle Paul

Welcome

Pastor Erik Swanson

Call to Worship and Gathering Prayer – Psalm 16

The Gospel Foretold – Genesis 3:15

Erik Swanson

Congregational Song of Gathering

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus, I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess,
The wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss;
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

The Shadow of Betrayal – *Luke 22:1-6*

Joy Swanson

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: Thanks be to God!

First candle is extinguished

The Shadow of Anguish – *Luke 22:39-46*

Joe Heidler

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: Thanks be to God!

Second candle is extinguished

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on!

The Shadow of Betrayal and Arrest – *Luke 22:47-53*

Wayne Blanding

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Third candle is extinguished

Ah, Holy Jesus

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
That we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered.
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion
For my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee and will ever pray thee,
Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.

The Shadow of Desertion and Denial – Luke 22:54-63

Connie Kay

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Fourth candle is extinguished

Corporate Prayer of Confession:

All: Lord Jesus, like Judas, we have at times betrayed you; like Peter, we have on occasion denied you; and like the other disciples, we have forsaken you. Yet you remain faithful to us unto death, even death on a cross. We plead for your forgiveness and mercy. And we ask that you strengthen us so that we do not turn aside but follow you to the very end – for the final victory belongs to you. Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer of Confession

Special Music

Tim Ryan

The Love of Jesus

At the foot of the cross I lay down my past;
At the foot of the cross is where I find forgiveness;
In this cross I know I have all I need.

This cross I believe is the love of Jesus;
When my eyes see God, I see who I really am;
When my eyes see God, I see the grace by which I stand;
No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
No mind can conceive all the love of Jesus.

I believe there's hope
For every soul.

The Shadow of Accusation – Luke 22:63-23:17

Sherry Rischel

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: Thanks be to God!

Fifth candle is extinguished

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain:
mine, mine was the transgression but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place;
Look on me with thy favor, vouchsafe to me thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest Friend,
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

The Shadow of Crucifixion – *Luke 23:18-43*

Bud Palmer

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sixth candle is extinguished

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.

Time of Silent Meditation and Adoration

And He Died

Oh, Jesus our Savior, high on a cross,
Suffering there for me, for me,
Betrayed and arrested by Pilate this day
In Gethsemane.
And He died, and He died.
Yes, Jesus Christ was crucified.

When darkness came over all of the land,
Jesus was heard to cry,
My God, why have You forsaken me?
Black was the midday sky.
And He died, and He died.
Yes, Jesus Christ was crucified.
And He died.

Reader: God showed His love for us in this: Christ died for us!
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Seventh candle is extinguished

For Whom the Bell Tolls: Remembering Jesus' 33 Years

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?*

*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?*

*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?*

The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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.**

Silent Meditation and Prayer

*Some lights will come back on after a few moments.
Please depart in silence.*

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