

PLACES of the PASSION



Golgotha - GOOD FRIDAY

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

7:00 PM Service

April 2, 2021

Pastor Carey Elam

Associate Pastor Steve Richardson

Tenebrae

The Service of Tenebrae - translated "Shadows" - follows a tradition of the church dating back to at least the 8th century, and perhaps as early as the 5th century. It dramatizes the suffering, death, and burial of Christ. The service moves from light to darkness, with the diminishing light symbolizing the fading devotion of the apostles. It is hoped that each person present will become aware of the sadness and despair that was evident before and during the crucifixion. At the end of the service the sanctuary will be in darkness. There will be no benediction, each person is asked to leave silently as he contemplates the tragedy of the crucifixion.

Good Friday is the second part of the three day service called the Triduum. This Friday we call good is a time of somber reflection as we are attentive to the mystery of the cross. The service seems rather austere in comparison to last night and Easter to come. The fact is that we are celebrating a death only because from that death flow forgiveness and life. We are part of this story, though from a distance. It was for our sins our Lord suffered and died. We may be separated from the actual events by several thousand years but we are part of this story. It was for us that He suffered and died and it was to us that He gives the fruits of His suffering and death. As powerful as this message is, the story continues for one more day with one more dramatic event still to come.

Invocation and Prayer

P. Dear friends, we have come together at this solemn moment in the life of the church, to reflect on the sufferings of Our Lord in his last days, and to dwell on our own shortcomings and human failings. Our hearts are great with sorrow and contrition, as we pray for forgiveness for the errors of our foolish and arrogant ways. The darkness covers us all, and our spirits are brought low. Come, then, let us walk in the shadows. Come then, let us seek the light.

Hymn *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted* **LSB #451**

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, see Him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis He, 'tis He!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'is the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear Him groaning, was there ever grief like His?
Friends through fear His cause disowning, foes insulting His distress;
Many hands were raised to wound Him, none would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced Him
Was the stroke that justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly, Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on Him their hope have built.

First Reading

Genesis 3:1-15

Second Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:2-3, 6-7

Third Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

Fourth Reading

Matthew 16:13-16, 21; 20:17-19

Hymn

Were You There

LSB #456

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh . . . , 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?
Oh . . . , 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?
Oh . . . , sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Fifth Reading

Matthew 26:31-56; 27:1-66

- The 13 candles represent the 12 apostles and Christ.
- The extinguishing of the 12 candles represent the fleeing of the apostles, leaving Jesus all alone.
- The Cross being carried out represents Christ going to die for our sins.
- The Hammering of the nails represents Christ being nailed to the Cross.
- The Christ Candle being extinguished represents the dying of Christ.
- The Closing of the book symbolizes the stone sealing the tomb of Jesus.

PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE