# **Behold the Darkness**

## A Tenebrae Service

#### By Benjamin Harlan

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Good Friday April 15, 2022

## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Please rise and face the back of the Sanctuary.

#### The Procession of the Christ Candle

- **P** Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Jesus Christ, the Light of the world,
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,
- who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.



#### 451 Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted



## **Confession and Forgiveness**

- P Lord God, You saved the first Israelites through the blood of the Egyptians' firstborn sons.
- Save us and help us also, we humbly implore You, O Lord.
- P We adore You, Lord Jesus, in Your cross and Passion, which You have brought life and joy into the world through Your suffering and death.
- **©** Be gracious to us according to Your mercy and bless us. Shine the light of Your face on us and give us Your peace.

- **P** Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God,
- at this hour You bore our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live for righteousness. Have mercy on us now and at the hour of our death and give us a holy and peaceful life in this world and through Your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with, the Father and the Holy Spirit, You live and rule, God forever. Amen.
- P Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
- C have mercy on us.
- P Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
- C have mercy on us.
- P Jesus, the Lamb of God, has taken away the sins of the world. By the command of Christ and the power of his death, I forgive your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### Congregation may be seated.

## **Prayer of the Day**

- Let us pray: Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **Chancel Choir: And No Bird Sang**

Wagner

Calm was the wind and dark was the sky, When our Lord came to die;
Lone, on the cross for our sins He did hang, And no bird sang.

Women and men with anguish and fear, Then to His cross drew near, drew near;
Hushed then to feel the bitter, bitter pang, no bird sang.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Lord have mercy, God's will be done, eleison.

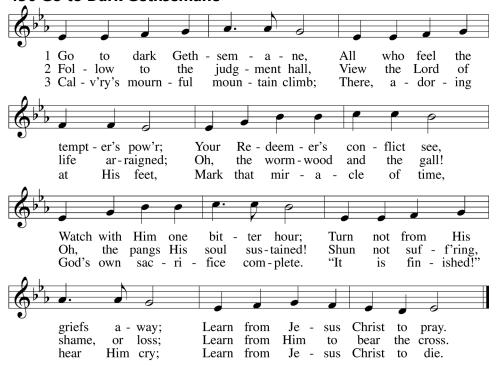
No bird sang in the sky, When Christ did come to die.

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#### Sermon

Sermon Theme: The Light Text: Luke 23:44-45a

#### 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane



## The Setting of the Shadow

P On this night, we remember that Christ, the Lamb of God, was betrayed, given over to his enemies, mocked, beaten, and finally crucified. All of this...for you. All of this...for me. Listen now and be reminded of how great a gift of love he offers us.

#### **Musical Interlude**

## **The Shadow of Betrayal**

Matthew 26:20-25

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. <sup>21</sup>And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." <sup>22</sup>And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" <sup>23</sup>He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." <sup>25</sup>Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

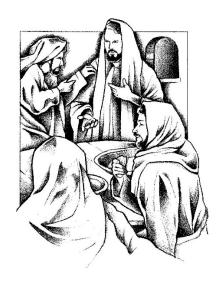
The first candle is extinguished.

#### The Shadow of Desertion

Matthew 26:31-35

Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' <sup>32</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." <sup>33</sup>Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." <sup>35</sup>Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

The second candle is extinguished.



#### 543 What Wondrous Love Is This



## The Shadow of Lethargy

Mark 14:32-42

<sup>32</sup>And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup>And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. <sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup>And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." <sup>37</sup>And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? <sup>38</sup>Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup>And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him.

<sup>41</sup>And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer."

The third candle is extinguished.

#### **Chancel Choir: Go to Dark Gethsemane**

Montgomery / Harlan

Go to dark Gethsemane, ye that feel the tempter's power; your Redeemer's conflict see, what with him one bitter hour. Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray. Calvary's mournful mountain climb God's own sacrifice complete, It is finished!, hear him cry; Learn of Jesus Christ to die

#### The Shadow of Violence

Matthew 26:47-52

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." <sup>49</sup>And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. <sup>51</sup>And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword."

The fourth candle is extinguished.

### **Chancel Choir: Ah, Holy Jesus**

Heermann / Harlan

Ah, holy Jesus, how has Thou offended, That we to judge thee have in hate pretended By foes derided, by thou own rejected O most afflicted Who was the Guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus hath undone thee; I, Lord Jesus, it was I denied thee; I crucified thee.

#### The Shadow of Denial

Luke 22:54-62

P <sup>54</sup>Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. <sup>55</sup>And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. <sup>56</sup>Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." <sup>57</sup>But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." <sup>58</sup>And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not." <sup>59</sup>And after an interval of about an

hour still another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean." <sup>60</sup>But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup>And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." <sup>62</sup>And he went out and wept bitterly.

The fifth candle is extinguished.

## The Shadow of Cynicism

John 18:33-38

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." <sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." <sup>38</sup>Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

The sixth candle is extinguished.

#### **Chancel Choir: O Love Divine**

Wesley / Harlan

O Love divine, what hast thou done! Immortal God had died for me! The Father's Son, Eternal Son, bore all my sin My Lord is crucified! Behold Him, all that would pass by, The bleeding Prince of life and peace! Come sinners see your Savior die, And say: "Was ever grief like his?" Come, feel with me this blood applied: My Lord, my Love, is crucified!

## The Shadow of Irresponsibility

Matthew 27:20-26

P <sup>20</sup>Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. <sup>21</sup>The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." <sup>22</sup>Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" <sup>23</sup>And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

<sup>24</sup>So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." <sup>25</sup>And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" <sup>26</sup>Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

The seventh candle is extinguished.

## **The Shadow of Mockery**

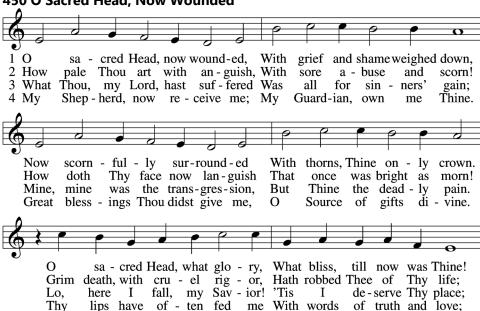
Mark 15:16-20

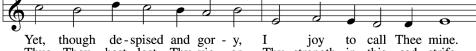
P <sup>16</sup>And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. <sup>17</sup>And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup>And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup>And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

The eighth candle is extinguished.



#### 450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded





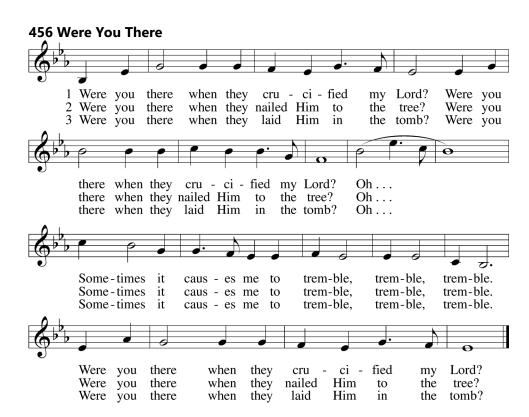
Thus Thou hast lost Thy vig - or, Thy strength, in this sad strife. Look on me with Thy fa - vor, And grant to me Thy grace. Thy Spir - it oft hath led me To heav'n - ly joys a - bove.

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 for Thee.

- 6 My Savior, be Thou near me
  When death is at my door;
  Then let Thy presence cheer me,
  Forsake me nevermore!
  When soul and body languish,
  O leave me not alone,
  But take away mine anguish
  By virtue of Thine own!
- 7 Be Thou my consolation,
  My shield, when I must die;
  Remind me of Thy passion
  When my last hour draws nigh.
  Mine eyes shall then behold Thee,
  Upon Thy cross shall dwell,
  My heart by faith enfold Thee.
  Who dieth thus dies well.

The Christ Candle is extinguished.





## The Prophecy of the Resurrection

Mark 8:31

P <sup>31</sup>And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.

#### **Chancel Choir: It Is Finished**

Wesley / Harlan

It is finished! The Messiah dies. Cut off for sins, but not His own. Accomplished is His sacrifice, God's redeeming work is done. It is finished all my guilt and pain I want no sacrifice beside; For me the Lamb is slain, Loves redeeming work is done.

### The Responsive Prayer

- P For the gift and grace of Jesus Christ, our Savior
- **C** we give thanks.
- **P** For the blessing and breadth of God's great love toward us
- **C** we give thanks.
- **P** For the challenge and comfort of the cross
- C we give thanks.
- **P** For the power and presence of his abiding Spirit
- **C** we give thanks.

The Sanctuary Lights are Dimmed

## The Nailing of the Cross

Moment of Silence

#### **The Benediction**

The Christ Candle is reignited.

P As we depart in darkness, may the light of hope continue to shine in our hearts.

#### **Chancel Choir: Behold the Savior**

Wesley / Reinagle

Behold the Savior of mankind nailed to the shameful tree;
How vast the love that him inclined,
To bleed and die for thee!
Tis done! The precious ransom's paid! "Receive my soul!" he cries:
See where he bows his sacred head!
He bows his head and dies.
Behold the Lamb, the Lamb of God.

#### The Altar Book is Slammed

The congregation is invited to remain in prayer, as they reflect upon the Passion of Our Lord.

Depart in Silence



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#### **Participating in Today's Service**

Narrator: Pastor Burns
Jesus: David Glauvits
Judas: Tom Hanna
Pilate: Tim Gamrath
Peter: Jason Voss
Servant Girl: Emma Burns
Man 1: David Gamache
Man 2: Darrin Slack

Acolytes: Tyler Hanson Gabriella Hardy Clara Higgins

Torch Bearer: Hunter Zinter

## Join us on Easter Sunday

**Easter Services with Communion** 

April 17, 2022 6:30a & 9:00a

Easter Breakfast April 17, 2022 7:30a – 8:30a