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Wesley United Methodist Church



Good Friday
April 15, 2022

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

A Service of Tenebrae, or "Shadows," is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ.

PRELUDE

O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile by D H. Hegarty
At the Midnight Hour by Esther S. Higgins

GREETING *

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world,
and we loved darkness rather than light.

HYMN The Old Rugged Cross UMH#504 (v. 1, 3)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

Seven candles (including the Christ candle) are lighted before the service begins; then one is extinguished at the conclusion of each section.

1. The Shadow of Betrayal

Reading Matthew 26:20-25

The first candle is extinguished.

HYMN Ah, Holy Jesus UMH #289 v. 1

2. The Shadow of the Agony of Spirit and Arrest

Reading Matthew 26:36-50

The second candle is extinguished.

(Silent moment for 10 seconds)

3. The Shadow of Denial

Reading Matthew 26:69-75

The third candle is extinguished.

Poem "Judas, Peter" by Luci Shaw

4. The Shadow of Accusation

Reading Matthew 27:11-14, 20-21, 24, 27-29

The fourth candle is extinguished.

HYMN O Sacred Head, Now Wounded UMH #286 v. 1

5. The Shadow of Crucifixion and Humiliation

Reading Matthew 27:31-43

The fifth candle is extinguished.

(Silent moment for 10 seconds)

6. The Shadow of Death

Reading Matthew 27:45-54

The sixth candle is extinguished.

HYMN When I Survey the Wondrous Cross UMH #298(verses 1-3)

The Christ Candle is Removed

7. The Shadow of Burial

Reading Matthew 27:57-60

Silence. The room remains darkened with only illumination necessary for safety. The room now remains barren until the Easter Service.

HYMN Were You There? UMH #288 (verses 1, 3, 5; v. 1 solo)

DISMISSAL

GOING FORTH

All depart in silence.