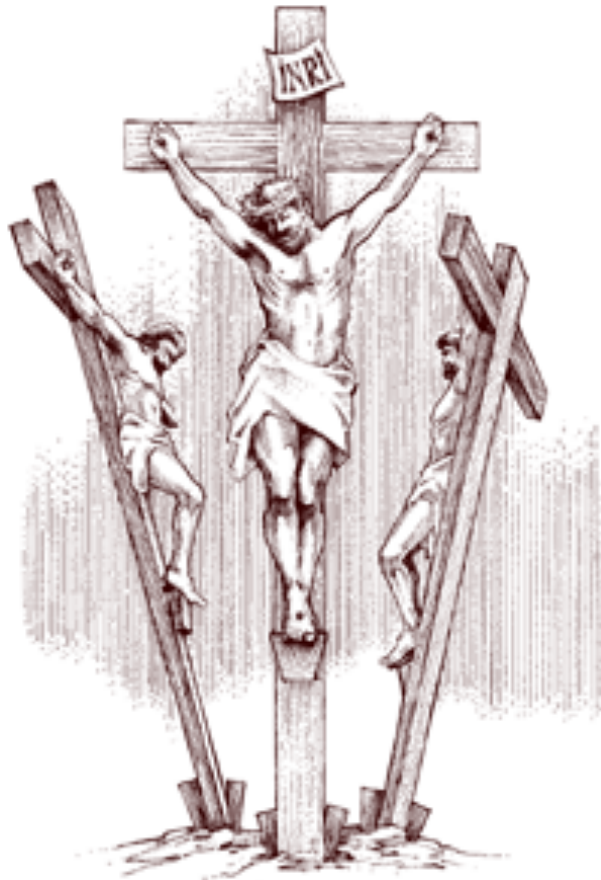




fisherwick⁺
presbyterian church



Service of Tenebrae

Good Friday
3rd April 2015 at 8.00pm

Service of Tenebrae

Tenebrae or 'Service of Shadows,' is one of the oldest church traditions for the commemoration of the Passion and Death of Jesus. It comes from the Latin word 'tenebrae'- meaning 'shadows'. As the Passion story unfolds, the darkness increases, until the final reading, the death and burial of Christ, when the last candle will be extinguished plunging the church into complete darkness.

Deliberately, the service ends with no benediction and no music. We are invited at the end of the service to remain for a few moments in quiet prayer, and then leave in silence: this dark, subdued and incomplete ending reflects the death of Christ and a salvation incomplete until the later miracle of the resurrection.

The service will proceed unannounced.

Organ Prelude on 'O Sacred Head', JS Bach

Call to Worship

Prayer

Hymn 424 There is a green hill far away

Verse 1

There is a green hill far away
Outside a city wall
Where the dear Lord was crucified
Who died to save us all

Verse 2

We may not know we cannot tell
What pains He had to bear
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there

Verse 3

He died that we might be forgiven
He died to make us good
That we might go at last to heaven
Saved by His precious blood

Verse 4

There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin
He only could unlock the gate
Of heaven and let us in

Verse 5

O dearly dearly has He loved
And we must love Him too
And trust in His redeeming blood
And try His works to do

Introduction to 'Tenebrae'

Reading 1 'Last Supper' (Matthew 26: 17-30)

Candle Extinguished **Brief Silence for Reflection**

Reading 2 'Gethsemane' (Matt. 26: 36-45)

Candle Extinguished **Brief Silence for Reflection**

Hymn 407 How deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss -
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart -
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Reading 3 'Jesus' Arrest' (Matthew 26: 47-56)

Candle Extinguished
Brief Silence for Reflection

Choir O My People (The Reproaches) – Lundy

O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I hurt you? Answer me.

O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I hurt you? Answer me.

I led you out of Egypt.

From slavery I set you free.
I brought you into a land of promise;
You have prepared a cross for me.

I led you as a shepherd;
I brought you safely through the sea;
Fed you manna in the desert;
You have prepared a cross for me.

I fought for you in battles,
I won you strength and victory;
Gave you a royal crown and sceptre;
You have prepared a cross for me.

I planted you, my vineyard,
And cared for you most tenderly;
Looked for abundant fruit and found none -
Only the cross you made for me.

Then listen to my pleading
And do not turn away from me.
You are my people: will you reject me?
For you I suffer bitterly.

Reading 4 'The Walk to Calvary' (Matthew 27: 27-32)

Candle Extinguished
Brief Silence for Reflection

Hymn O Sacred Head

Verse 1
O sacred head once wounded
With grief and shame weighed down
How scornfully surrounded
With thorns Your only crown
How pale You are with anguish
With fierce abuse and scorn
How do those features languish
Which once were bright as morn

Verse 2
What bliss was Yours in glory
O Lord of life divine
I read the amazing story
I joy to call You mine
Your grief and Your compassion
Were all for sinners' gain
Mine, mine was the transgression
But Yours the deadly pain

Verse 3

What language shall I borrow
To praise You, dearest friend
For this Your dying sorrow
Your pity without end
Lord make me Yours forever
Nor let me faithless prove
O Let me never never
Refuse such dying love

Verse 4

Be near me when I'm dying
Lord show Your cross to me
Your death my hope supplying
From death shall set me free
These eyes new faith receiving
From Jesus shall not move
Whoever dies believing
Dies safely in Your love

Reading 5 'Death' (Matthew 27: 33-54)

Candle Extinguished
Brief Silence for Reflection

Choir O Lord, support us – Byrne

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world lies hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (Att. John Henry Newman)

Reading 6 'Burial' (Matthew 27: 57-66)

Candle Extinguished
Brief Silence for Reflection

Hymn Come and See

Come and see, come and see
Come and see the King of love
See the purple robe and crown of thorns he wears
Soldiers mock, rulers sneer as he lifts the cruel cross
Lone and friendless now he climbs towards the hill

*We worship at your feet
Where wrath and mercy meet
And a guilty world is washed by love's pure stream
For us he was made sin*

*Oh, help me take it in
Deep wounds of love cry out "Father, forgive"
I worship, I worship the lamb that was slain*

Come and weep, come and mourn
For your sin that pierced him here
So much deeper than the wounds of thorn and nail
All our pride, all our greed
All our fallenness and shame
And the Lord has laid the punishment on him

Man of heaven, born to earth
To restore us to your heaven
Here we bow in awe beneath your searching eyes
From our tears comes our joy
From your death our life shall spring
By your resurrection power we shall rise

Brief Meditation

Reading 7 'Forsaken' (Psalm 22: 1-21)

Final Candle Extinguished
Silence and darkness

We all leave in silence

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Sunday 5th April 11.00am

**Easter Sunday Celebration with Holy Communion
Led by Rev Michael Anderson**

There is no Sunday Night Live service

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