

GOOD FRIDAY (TENEBRAE)

April 18, 2025

Please gather in silence.

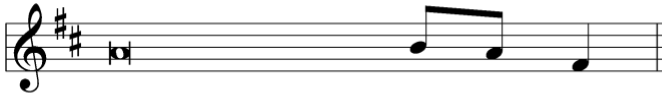
The Service of Tenebrae (meaning “darkness” or “shadow”) has been in use in the Christian Church for some thirteen hundred years. During this service of readings and hymns, candles and lights are extinguished successively to signify the darkness of death that came upon our Lord on that Friday we call “good.” The seven words our Lord spoke from his cross make up this evening’s readings. The service concludes with a whispered Lord’s Prayer.

Please stand as the minister enters in silence.

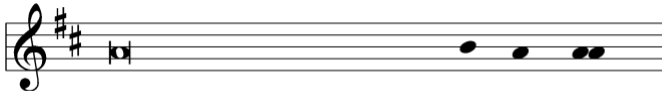
THE OPENING VERSICLES



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

PSALM 31 *(Cantor sings regular type, all sing bold)*



¹In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!

²**Incline your ear to me; rescue me | speedily!***

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to | save me!

³For you are my rock and my | fortress;*

and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me;

⁴**you take me out of the net they have hidden | for me,* for you are my | refuge.**

⁵Into your hand I commit my | spirit;* you have redeemed me, O Lord, | faithful God.

⁶**I hate those who pay regard to worthless | idols,* but I trust | in the Lord.**

⁷I will rejoice and be glad in your | steadfast love,*

because you have seen my affliction; you have known the distress | of my soul,

⁸**and you have not delivered me into the hand of the | enemy;***

you have set my feet in a | broad place.

⁹Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am | in distress;*

my eye is wasted from grief, my soul and my body | also.

¹⁰**For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with | sighing;***

my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones | waste away.

¹¹Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors,

and an object of dread to my ac- | quaintances;*

those who see me in the street | flee from me.

¹²**I have been forgotten like one | who is dead;* I have become like a broken | vessel.**

¹³For I hear the whispering of many—terror on | every side!—*

as they scheme together against me, as they plot to | take my life.

¹⁴**But I trust in you, | O Lord;* I say, “You | are my God.”**

¹⁵My times are | in your hand;*

rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my perse- | cutors!

¹⁶**Make your face shine on your | servant;* save me in your | steadfast love!**

¹⁷O Lord, let me not be put to shame, for I call up- | on you;*

let the wicked be put to shame; let them go silently | to Sheol.

¹⁸**Let the lying | lips be mute,***

which speak insolently against the righteous in pride | and contempt.

¹⁹Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who | fear you*
and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of | mankind!

²⁰**In the cover of your presence you hide them from the | plots of men;***
you store them in your shelter from the | strife of tongues.

²¹Blesséd | be the Lord,*

for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me when I was in a besieged | city.

²²**I had said in my alarm, “I am cut off | from your sight.”***

But you heard the voice of my pleas for mercy when I cried to | you for help.

²³Love the Lord, all | you his saints!*

The Lord preserves the faithful but abundantly repays the one who | acts in pride.

²⁴**Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,* all you who wait | for the Lord!**

Be Seated

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

— THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF OUR LORD —

THE FIRST WORD LUKE 23:23-34

HYMN #437

Alas! And Did my Savior Bleed

1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And
did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y
sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.

First candle extinguished

Silence

THE SECOND WORD LUKE 23:35-43

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Second candle extinguished.

Silence

THE THIRD WORD JOHN 19:23-27

HYMN #440

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.
With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.
Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure
Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

Third candle extinguished.

Silence

THE FOURTH WORD MATTHEW 27:45-49

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

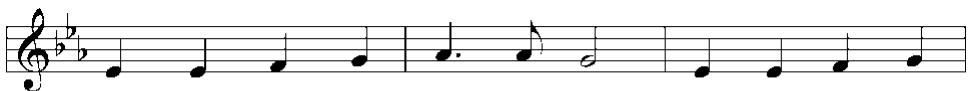
Fourth candle extinguished.

Silence

THE FIFTH WORD JOHN 19:28-29

HYMN #436

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

Fifth candle extinguished.

Silence

THE SIXTH WORD JOHN 19:30

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Sixth candle extinguished.

Silence

THE SEVENTH WORD LUKE 23:44-46

HYMN

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



1. Come, ye sin-ners, — poor and need - y, Weak and wound-ed — sick and sore;
2. Come, ye thirsty — come, and wel - come, God's free bount-y — glor-ri - fy;
3. Come, ye wea-ry — heav - y la - den, Lost and ru - ined — by the fall;
4. View Him pros-trate — in the gar - den, On the ground your Ma-ker lies;
5. Let not con-science — make you lin - ger, Nor of fit - nes — fond-ly dream;



Je - sus read - dy stand to save you, Full of pit - y, — love, and pow'r.
True be - lief — and true re - pen - tance, Ev - 'ry grace — that — brings you nigh.
If you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, You will nev - er — come at all.
On the bloo - dy tree be - hold Him, Sin - ner will — this — not suf - fice?
All the fit - ness He re - quir - eth Is to feel — your — need of Him.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will embrace me — in His arms;



In the arms — of my dear Sav - ior, O there are — ten — thou - sand charms.

Seventh candle extinguished.

SERMON

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Please Stand

LITANY FOR GOOD FRIDAY

P Lord have mercy

C **Christ have mercy**

P Lord have mercy. Christ hear us

C **Christ, graciously hear us**

P God the Father in heaven

C **Have mercy on us**

P God the Son, Redeemer of the world

C **Have mercy on us**

P God the Holy Spirit

C **Have mercy on us**

P By Thy suffering in death, by the hurt of Judas' treachery, by the pain of Peter's denial, by Thy agony and bloody sweat, by the robe of purple and the crown of thorns, by the sting of the whip and the lash of the scourge, by the way of the cross, by the nails and thirst, by Thy blood that stained the holy cross, by the travail of Thy soul, by Thine expiring cry, by Thy triumph in death,

C **Hear us, O Dying Redeemer.**

The Christ Candle is removed signifying the death of our Lord.

P From hardness of heart and darkness of soul, from coldness of mind, from trampling Thy blood on the way of sin, from driving the nails again, from crucifying Thee anew, from forgetfulness of Thy great sorrow, from the loneliness of life without Thee, from greed and ambition, from lust of eye and pride of life, from the burden of remembered sin, from the cunning of men, from the confusion of ignorance, from hate, from a jealous heart, from the last sin of unbelief.

C **Deliver us, O Living Redeemer.**

Silence

All (Whispered in unison) **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Silence

THE STREPITUS (The slamming of the Bible signifies the scourging of the soldiers, the earthquake at our Lord's death, and the crashing of the rock over our His tomb. By God's great mercy, our sins are forever locked within! God sees them no more!! The lighted candles return on Easter. The dread darkness of death cannot extinguish He who is the Light of Life. Neither shall it extinguish you.)

The minister exits the chancel.

*The congregation may be seated and is invited to remain for meditation as long as they wish before dispersing quietly.
The service continues Easter morning at 6:31am (outdoors) and 10:15am.*

Special thanks to Saxophonist, Michel Elswick.

