

Good Friday Tenebrae
March 29, 2013
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Alpha and the Omega



TENEBRAE (Latin for 'darkness') is a devotional service based on various phases of our Lord's pilgrimage from the Upper Room to the Cross. It is intended to bring to mind and heart the closing hours of Jesus' Passion by recreating the unforgettable in word and symbol. As the service progresses, darkness is gradually produced by lights and candles being extinguished, symbolizing the darkness which surrounded the cross at Calvary.

EIGHT CANDLES are placed in the chancel area. Each of the seven smaller candles represent one particular event of Christ's Passion. The eighth candle, the Christ Candle, is not to be put out, but just as Christ's body was hidden in the grave until the third day, so this candle is removed and hidden for a short time.

At the end of the service, the Christ Candle is returned, giving testimony that we believe that Jesus Christ has conquered death, hell, sin and Satan for us and assures us of being reconciled with God and that in him we do have eternal life.

THE SERVICE begins in silence and ends in silence. Worshipers are invited to remain after the service for as long as they wish for prayer and meditation, but are asked to leave the sanctuary, courtyard, and parking lot in silence, leaving it in stillness and darkness until the dawn of a glorious Easter Day.

INVOCATION: We join in solemn worship on this Good Friday
in the name of God the Father, who offered up his Son;
in the name of our self-sacrificing Savior Jesus; and
in the name of the Holy Spirit, who led us to and keeps us in faith.
Amen.

INTRODUCTION

PRAYER IN UNISON: Eternal God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Help us to always be aware of the events that caused Jesus to be taken to the cross. As we become mindful of those who confronted Him with betrayal, denial, torture, rejections, mockery and hatred, we realize that these same traits might be found in our own lives. Help us to re-examine our inner selves in this hour, as we reflect on the lives of those who failed our Savior. As we recognize our sins that caused his crucifixion, grant us forgiveness and cleanse our lives of sin. Uplift us that we might see beyond the shadows of the cross, and find that our hope of life and salvation is in Him who came as the Light of the world—Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 98 st. 1-4

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

MEDITATION

READING: John 1:1-18

FIRST CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

HYMN 127

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

MEDITATION

READING: Isaiah 53

SECOND CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

HYMN 100 st. 1-3

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

MEDITATION

READING: Philippians 2:6-8

THIRD CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

HYMN 35 st. 1-3

Of the Father's Love Begotten

MEDITATION

READING: Luke 22:39-62

FOURTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

HYMN

Betrayed

Tune: CW 110 My Song Is Love Unknown

Text: Ron Koehler

1. Judas betrayed our Lord, A kiss gave Him away
Guards forced Him from the Garden where He knelt to pray
An act so vile, Hard to believe
Our Jesus taken on to trial
2. Peter betrayed our Lord, Denying his best friend
As curses flow, the rooster crows and horror sets in
A look, then tears, He runs away
And Jesus' sentence soon draws near
3. The crowds betrayed our Lord, "Hosannas" fade away
Into the darkness "Crucify" is what they say
And at a loss, The hands are washed
Our Lord is taken to the cross.
4. We have betrayed our Lord, The sin that is our own
Drove Him to take our place before our Father's throne.
The just decree, Guilt becomes His
And you and I are now set free!

MEDITATION

READING: John 18:28-40

FIFTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

HYMN 115

He Stood before the Court

MEDITATION

READING: Luke 23:26-43

SIXTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

CHOIR

What Have They Done to My Savior?

MEDITATION

READING: John 19:28-30

SEVENTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

CHOIR

Lay His Body Down

CHRIST CANDLE REMOVED

SOLO

"Were You There?"

Diane Kramm

CHRIST CANDLE RETURNED

MEDITATION

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

SILENT DISMISSAL

Please stay after the service for meditation as long as you would like. However, when you leave, PLEASE LEAVE THE SANCTUARY, COURTYARD, AND PARKING LOT IN SILENCE, leaving it in stillness and darkness until the dawn of a glorious Easter Day.

OFFERINGS to our Savior may be left in the plates at the doors before you leave.

We pray that you will join us here at Grace for our Easter celebration of our Savior's victory over sin, death, and hell:

*Sunrise Service 7 AM
Easter Breakfast 8 AM*

*Easter Concert 9 AM
Easter Festival Worship 10 AM*

*Easter at Grace-Vail (worshiping at Cottonwood Elementary, 9950 E. Rees Loop)
Easter Breakfast 9 AM Easter Festival Worship 10 AM*

TENEBRAE PARTICIPANTS

NARRATOR
READINGS
ORGANIST
CHOIR DIRECTOR

Pastor Ron Koehler
Pastor Sam Clemons
Tina Christianson
Teri Guenther

TRUMPET
CANDLES
LIGHTING

Tyler Koehler
Jake Kassulke
Taylor Parra