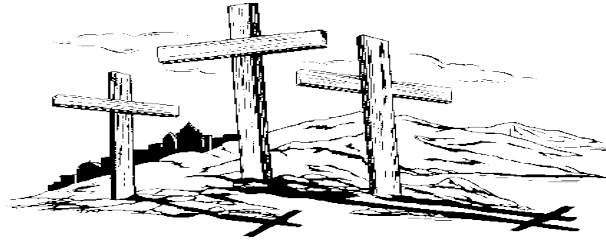




Good Friday
Tenebrae Service

Flemington Presbyterian Church
March 29, 2024



Tenebrae – a Service of Darkness
Good Friday

Procession

Solemn Procession

George Blake

Gathering

One: We huddle together on this day of gloom and fear.
Who can understand such a perversion of justice?

**All: Why does God seem so far away from our groaning?
We cry out, but God does not hear or answer us.**

One: Why do people despise and reject Jesus of Nazareth?
He announced and demonstrated God's inclusive love.

**All: Surely God could have prevented Jesus' suffering.
Why does God fail to intervene when we pray?**

One: Some say Jesus was made perfect through suffering.
They see the cross as a sign of obedience and true worship.

**All: How can we see any light in this anguish?
What can it mean that Jesus was wounded for us?**

Invocation (*unison*)

Puzzling God, how can we deal with a day that denies the love Jesus lived and proclaimed? We see the evil of Good Friday repeated again and again in the suffering of innocent people. How can you let this happen? How can we find your will amid this pain and loss? How can we know you care when everything goes wrong? We need you now, but you seem to have forsaken us. You seem so far away, so silent. Do you feel our anguish? Do you suffer with us? Is it your tears that we feel welling up inside? O God, let us know you are here. Amen.

*Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

No. 216

The Passion of Christ
"Shadows of Sacrifice" by John Purifoy
Sung by the Chancel Choir

Prelude		
	The Shadow of Betrayal	
First Word	First candle is extinguished	Matthew 26:20-25
Anthem	<i>Is It I, Lord!</i>	
	The Shadow of Inner Agony	
Second Word	Second candle is extinguished	Luke 22:39-44
Anthem	<i>Remove This Cup</i>	
	The Shadow of Loneliness	
Third Word	Third candle is extinguished	Matthew 26:40-45
Anthem	<i>'Tis Midnight</i>	
	The Shadow of Desertion	
Fourth Word	Fourth candle is extinguished	Matthew 26:48-50
Anthem	<i>Friend, Why Are You Here?</i>	
	The Shadow of Accusation	
Fifth Word	Fifth candle is extinguished	Mark 15:8-15
Anthem	<i>Father, Forgive Them</i>	
	The Shadow of Commitment	
Sixth Word	Sixth candle is extinguished	Luke 23:42-46
Anthem	<i>O Thou Who Through This Holy Week</i>	
	The Shadow of Death	
Seventh Word	Seventh candle is extinguished	Luke 23:47-48

The Christ Candle is removed
Tolling of the Bell (rung 33 times in remembrance of our Lord's years on earth)
The Christ Candle is restored
Silent Meditation
Depart in Silence (the lights will brighten after 20 seconds)

Participants

Readers: Rev. Amy Lincoln and Steve Lederach
Acolytes: Alana Henderson and Thomas Philip
Lights and bell tolling: Ron Sickles
Director of Music/Organist: J. Jay Smith
Oboe: Melissa Bohl
Soloists: Sally Bethman, soprano and Ian Bethman, baritone
Audio/video engineer: Connor Runk

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This Sunday — March 31, 2024
Easter Sunday/ Resurrection Sunday
Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln preaching
6:30am Sunrise Service, Parking lot by cemetery
9:30am Sunday Service in the sanctuary
with Chancel Choir and brass quartet and
Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln, Pastor
Cindy Hall, Office Manager
Jennifer Miller, Youth Coordinator

J. Jay Smith, Director of Music/Organist
Margaret Sheneman, Director of Handbells
Marion Barry, Sexton

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