

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae

A Service of Shadows

Makawao Union Church

April 9, 2020

Tonight we gather to observe the Last Supper and Passion of Christ. The word "Maundy" comes from a derivative of the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment." Jesus said to his disciples, "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13:34, Revised Standard Version).

We also gather to hold a Tenebrae service. The word *tenebrae* comes from the Latin word meaning "darkness." Tenebrae is an ancient Christian service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of Holy Week from the Last Supper through Jesus' burial. The service concludes in darkness with a final candle, the Christ candle, most often carried out of the sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus.

This year we will enact this ancient ritual of the church through word and song. We will share communion and extinguish the candles and walk in darkness with Jesus until Easter morning. Let us enter the passion together and ponder this mystery.

Prelude *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor* arr. Larry Shackley
Greeting

Robin: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Robin: We lift our eyes to the hills,

People: where the cross of Jesus stands.

Robin: Let us enter this time of darkness.

People: We enter the shadows to await the light.

Hymn *What Wondrous Love Is This* Bill Kepler
What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

The Service of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Meditation

Communion

The Service of Shadows

The Shadow of Betrayal

Reading Matthew 26:20-25

Judy Anderson

Response

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Jay Slaughter

Jesus walked this lonesome valley;

He had to walk it by himself.

Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;

He had to walk it by himself.

The Shadow of the Agony of Spirit and Arrest

Reading Matthew 26:36-50

Donna McCleary

Instrumental Response

'Tis Midnight On the Olive's Brow

The Shadow of Denial

Reading Matthew 26:69-75

Dave Williams

Response

Go to Dark Gethsemane

Judy Anderson

Follow to the judgment hall;

View the Lord of life arraigned;

O the worm-wood and the gall!

O the pangs His soul sustained!

Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;

Learn of Him to bear the cross.

The Shadow of Accusation

Reading Matthew 27:11-14, 20-29

Jay Slaughter

Response

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Robin Lunn

O sacred Head, now wounded,

with grief and shame weighed down;

now scornfully surrounded

with thorns, thine only crown;

O sacred Head, what glory,
what bliss 'til now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I joy to call thee mine.

The Shadow of Crucifixion and Humiliation

Reading Matthew 27:31-43

Bill Kepler

Response *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Judy Anderson

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

The Shadow of Death

Reading Matthew 27:45-54

Donna McCleary

Instrumental Response *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

The Christ Candle is Removed

The Shadow of Burial

Reading Matthew 27:57-60

Judy Anderson

Response *Were You There?* Bill Kepler

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Silent Meditation

The Christ Candle Is Restored

Hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Jay Slaughter

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Dismissal

Robin: May the God of Grace, who is always raising Jesus from the dead be with you as we walk into the shadows. May the Spirit attend you as we await the dawn. May you know Peace.

People: Amen.

The People Leave in Silence