

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Good Friday Tenebrae Service

March 29, 2024

1:00 & 6:30 P.M.

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

1001 North Capitol Avenue Lansing, Michigan 48906

The Tenebrae Service is a tradition in the Christian Church. It is a form of worship designed to impress on our hearts the serious consequences of sin and the depth of Jesus' sacrifice for us on the cross.

"Tenebrae" is a Latin word for darkness. It calls to mind the deep darkness that covered the earth as Christ suffered on the cross. We worship in ever-increasing darkness as we contemplate our Lord's death. The service begins and ends in silence. Let us appreciate the final sufferings and death of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Opening Hymn – When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
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.

Responsive Reading from Isaiah 53

Pastor: Who has believed our report,

Cong.: And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

P: Surely he was taking up our weaknesses and he was carrying our sufferings,

C: We thought it was because of God that he was stricken, smitten and afflicted,

P: but it was because of our rebellion that he was pierced. He was crushed for the guilt our sins deserve

C: The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

P: We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way,

C: but the LORD has charged all our guilt to him.

Hymn – Jesus, I will ponder now on Your holy passion;
With Your spirit me endow for such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish.
Of Your suffering, pain, and death that I may not perish.

Make me see Your great distress, anguish and affliction,
Bonds and strips and wretchedness and Your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nail did wound You,
How for them You died O God, who with thorns had crowned You.

The Seven Words From The Cross

Luke 23:34 *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”*

Hymn – Men mock and taunt and jeer You. They smite Your countenance.
 Though mighty worlds shall fear You and flee before Your glance.
 How pale You are with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
 Your eyes with pain now languish, that once were bright as morn!

Now from Your cheeks has vanished their color once so fair;
 From Your red lips is banished the splendor that was there.
 Grim death, with cruel rigor has robbed You of Your life.
 Thus You have lost Your vigor, Your strength in this sad strife.

Luke 23:43 *“Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise.”*

Hymn – Jesus, pitying the sighs Of the thief who near You dies,
 Promising him Paradise; Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we in our guilt and shame still Your love and mercy claim,
 Calling humbly on Your name. Here us, holy Jesus.

May our hearts to Thee incline, looking from our cross to Thine
 Cheer our souls with hope divine. Hear us, holy Jesus.

John 19:26-27 *“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son!’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother!’ And from that time this disciple took her into his own home.”*

Hymn – Jesus, loving to the end her whose heart Your sorrows rend
 And Your dearest human friend. Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we in Your sorrows share, for Your sake all peril share,
 And enjoy Your tender care. Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we all Your loved ones be, all one holy family,
 Loving for the love of Thee. Hear us, holy Jesus.

Mark 15: 33-34 ***“When it was the sixth hour, darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. At the ninth hour Jesus shouted with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachtani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”***

Hymn – Silent thro’ those three dread hours, wrestling with the evil powers,
Left alone with human sin, gloom around Thee and within,

Till th’ appointed time is nigh, till the Lamb of God may die.
Hark! The cry that peals aloud upward through the whelming cloud!

Thou the Father’s only Son, Thou His own Anointed One,
Thou dost ask Him, can it be? Why hast Thou forsaken Me?

John 19:28 ***“After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to fulfill the Scripture, Jesus said, I thirst.”***

Hymn Jesus, in Your thirst and pain, while Your wounds the lifeblood drain,
Thus fulfilling Scripture’s plan. Here us, holy Jesus.

Thirst for us in mercy still. All Your holy work fulfill.
Satisfy Your loving will. Hear us, holy Jesus.

May we thirst Your love to know. Lead us in our sin and woe,
Where the healing waters flow. Hear us, holy Jesus.

John 19:30 ***“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said ‘It is finished!’ Then, bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.***

Hymn – Oh, come my soul, Your Savior see nailed to Your cross on Calvary.
Your pains he bears; Your thorns he wears, that yours a crown of life might be.

Oh, sing my soul, sing endlessly the wondrous love that sets you free.
His dying breath brings life from death, makes heav’n your home eternally.

Luke 23:46 ***“Jesus cried out with a loud voice, Father, into Your hands I commit my spirit! When he had said this, he breathed his last.”***

1:00 P.M. Children’s Choir – The Power of the Cross

6:30 P.M. Senior Choir Anthem — “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

The Lighting of the Resurrection Candle

Hymn – Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross did suffer,
 Ever patient and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer.
 All sin You carried for us, else had despair reigned o'er us.
 Your peace be with us, O Jesus!

The Gathering of Thankofferings

Good Friday Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Hymn – On my heart imprint your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace.
 That life's riches, cares and pleasures Have no pow'r to hide your face.
 This the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
 Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation.

Those not remaining for the distribution of the Lord's Supper are asked to leave as quietly as possible at this time.

Individual Confession and Absolution – Christian Worship page 282

The Words of Institution

Distribution

Distribution Hymns 677; 427; 433

Prayer and Benediction

At the conclusion of our worship, you are asked to leave as quietly as possible.

Easter Dawn Worship 6:30 A.M.
 Easter breakfast in the gymnasium
 Easter is for Families 9:00 A.M.
 Easter Day Worship 10:30 A.M.

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