

**WELCOME TO**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
*OF BISMARCK, ND*

*Tenebrae Service of Shadows*



**MAUNDY**  
*Thursday*

**April 17, 2025**

**7:30pm**

## *A Service of Tenebrae*

*The service of Tenebrae, meaning “darkness” or “shadows,” has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Once a service for the monastic community, Tenebrae later became an important part of the worship of the medieval common folk during Holy Week. Today we join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the liturgy of Tenebrae.*

*Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ’s suffering. We trace the story of Christ’s passion with music which portrays his pathos and candles slowly diminish signaling the cessation of Christ’s life. The power of silence and mounting darkness suggest the drama of this momentous day. We ponder the depth of Christ’s suffering through mounting darkness.*

### **ATTENDANCE BOOKS**

You will find an Attendance Pad at the end of each pew. Please fill it out and leave it in pew for the church office to collect. (please include any updated address information) Thank you to everyone for helping us with collecting attendance and statistics we submit to the Presbytery.

# Maundy Thursday ~ Tenebrae

## A Service of Shadows

### The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*(\*Asterisks indicate that all who are able are requested to stand,  
**bold** texts are to be read in unison)*

#### Prelude

#### Introduction

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons

#### \*Call to Worship (responsively)

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world,  
**and we loved darkness rather than light.**


#### Opening Prayer (in unison)

**Come sweet Spirit of God, and as the scriptures are read and the word declared in song, deepen in us the meaning of Christ's sacrifice. Expose once more the depth of human darkness and our love for violence. Expose once more our preference for the darkness and our fear and rejection of the light. As we move into the shadows with Christ, help us to see the light of love in his life, light which darkness cannot conquer. Prepare our hearts for the coming morning of joy, when sin, death and darkness are removed from our world forever. Amen.**

#### Litany of Remembrance and Confession

Leader:

O people, lament with me our great sin,  
for the sake of which Christ left his Father's bosom  
and came to earth.

Of a pure, gentle virgin Jesus was born for us; he gave  
life to the dead and put aside all sickness until the time arrived  
that he should be sacrificed for us. 

He bore the heavy burden of our sins stretched out on the cross. Weep with me, that despite his self-giving, evil continues today and we participate in it.

Renew your sense of sorrow over the state of the world, look deeply at Christ's death. And in it see grief at human response to God's redemption.

**People: We are silenced by the brutality Christ met in this world. We are awed by the enormity of the love which he demonstrated for us.**

### **Silent Confession**

Leader:

Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your children gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed, given into sinful hands, and suffered death upon the cross.

Strengthen our faith and forgive our betrayals as we enter the way of his passion; through Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

## **“Song of the Shadows”**

By Joseph M. Martin

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.

Mark Jensen, acolyte ~ Josh Stokka, audio/visual

Arvy Smith, keyboards ~ Erik Hein Jr, security/ light board

### **The Shadow of Contemplation**

“Song of the Shadows”

Narrator: Donna Richter

### **The Shadow of Turning**

“On the Road to Jerusalem”

*The first candle is extinguished*

Narrator: Barb Satran

## **The Shadow of Betrayal**

“Lord, Is It I?”

*The second candle is extinguished*

## **The Institution of the Lord’s Supper** Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons

Tonight, we will be sharing the cup and bread through the age-old practice of intinction. Those who have mobility issues, please signal an usher and the cup and bread will be brought to you.

## **Scripture Reading**

*John 13:31-35*

<sup>31</sup> [...] Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

<sup>33</sup> “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

<sup>34</sup> “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

## **The Shadow of Sacrifice**

“Given for You”

Soloist, Jim Rambo

Narrator: Shari Orser

*The third candle is extinguished*

## **The Shadow of Loneliness**

“And it Was Night”

*The fourth candle is extinguished*

## **The Shadow of Suffering**

“In Pilate’s Court the Savior Stands”

Narrator: Audrey Simmons

*The fifth candle is extinguished*

**The Shadow of the Cross**

“Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)”

Duet: Allen Hoberg and Debi Rogers

Narrator: Alice Nix

*The sixth candle is extinguished*

**The Shadow of Death**

“Even the Heavens Are Weeping”

Percussion, Drew Pengilly

Narrator: Donna Richter

*As this song is sung, the Pastor will strip the paraments  
and shroud all things in black, in grim remembrance of  
the death of Christ.*

**The Darkness Prevails**

*As the Christ candle is carried out symbolizing the removal  
and burial of Christ's body, a bell will toll in grief.  
The choir will recess in silence, the congregation will follow.  
We will recess to the cross which is in the narthex.*

**Benediction**

“Were You There?”

*When the last of 3 nail strikes sound, you are dismissed.  
Please exit in total silence.*

*... until Sunday ...*

***Thank You***  
***to this evening's participants in our***  
***Maundy Thursday worship service.***



## **Calendar**

- Friday, April 18 - ***5:00pm Good Friday Service at Glencoe***  
**OFFICES CLOSED**
- Saturday, April 19 - **11AM-Noon Prayer Vigil in the Chapel**
- Sunday, April 20 - **10:00am Worship "Easter Sunday"**  
**Communion**  
**NO Sunday School**

