

Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

Good Friday: Tenebrae A Service of Shadows



April 2, 2021

7:00 pm

A Just Peace Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation
A God is Still Speaking Congregation
Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

Welcome

Prelude

“Passion Chorale”

Richard Lloyd

Call to Worship

One: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.” Anyone who follows will be granted a path; you shall find the path even in the chaos of the world.

All: We seek hope in the face of fear, this evening. Let us feel Your presence, God, especially in the shadows.

One: God, You are gracious. We know that You illumine all by Spirit, not only by light. Let us sense the deep ways that You are the light of the world.

All: We seek hope in the face of fear, this evening. Let us feel Your presence, God, especially in the shadows.

One: Jesus knew that he was to suffer, and yet he healed, preached, and stood among those who needed him most.

All: We seek hope in the face of fear, this evening. Let us feel Your presence, God, especially in the shadows.

One: We enter into this dark hour, eager to learn from this, our story. We trust that fear will not have the final word.

Hymn

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

NCH (black) #224

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross,
2 For - bid it, then, that I should boast,
3 From sa - cred head, from hands, and feet,
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,

on which the Christ of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
sor - row and love flow min - gled down!
that were a pres - ent far too small;

My rich - est gain I count but loss,
 All the vain things that charm me most
 Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to Christ's blood.
 or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

A Prayer for Hope

With twelve candles beside one representing Christ, we recall that we are disciples and that we too have moved away from Love in our lives. As we light candles this evening and hear stories, we recall that even with our brokenness we are welcomed to God's love and care.

Silence

Response Savior, When in Tears and Dust NCH (black) #185
**Savior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust,
 By your days of sore distress in the savage wilderness,
 By the dread mysterious hour of the insulting tempter's power:
 Turn, O turn a favoring eye, hear our solemn litany.**

Lesson from the Hebrew Bible

Psalm 22: 1-5

Reflections

Rev. Sara M. Holland

Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

NCH (black) #226

Verses 1 & 3

1 O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 What you, dear Sav - ior, suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank you, dear - est friend;

Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, your on - ly crown,
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but yours the dead - ly pain.
For this your dy - ing sor - row, your pit - y with - out end?

How pale you are with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior, for I de - serve your place;
May I be yours for - ev - er; and though my days be few,

How does your vis - age lan - guish which once was bright as morn!
Look on me with your fa - vor, O grant to me your grace.
O Sav - ior, let me nev - er out - live my love for you!

Office of Tenebrae
The Shadow of Betrayal:

Matt. 26:20-25

Matt. 26:31-35

Hymn

“What Wondrous Love Is This” NCH (black) #223, vs 1

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 Christ should come in bliss

to bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,

to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

The Shadow of the Agony of the Spirit and Arrest:

Mark 14:32-41

The Shadow of Denial:

Matt. 26:47-52, 56b

Luke 22:54-62

Hymn

“What Wondrous Love Is This” NCH (black) #223, vs 2

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to

God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb

Who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme, I will sing,

I will sing; while millions join the theme, I will sing.

The Shadow of Accusation

John 18:33-38a

Matt. 27:20-24

The Shadow of Mockery

Mark 15:16-20

Musical Offering

The Shadow of the Crucifixion

Mark 15:29-32a

Mark 15:33-34

The Shadow of Death

John 19:28-30

Mark 15:38-39

Solo

“Were You There?”

Alison Thatcher

The Shadow of Burial

John 19:38-42

Benediction

John 1: 1-5 adaptation

On this evening, recall love exists and always, yes always, overcomes fear.

Please consider joining us for web-based Easter services on Facebook or PBTv (local channel 1302). Sunrise service is at 6:10 am and the traditional service will be at 9:30 am.

The Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
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Wayne Martin, Liturgist; Alison Thatcher, Soloist

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