

# Grace Presbyterian Church

## Tenebrae A Service of Darkness

Good Friday

April 6, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Chime

Pastor: Bless the Lord who forgives our sins.

**People:** *His mercy endures forever.*

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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

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

Pastor: For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

**People:** *Every one that does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light. But all who do what is true come to the light.*

Pastor: Come; let us worship in spirit and truth.

Pastor: The Lord be with you

**People:** *And also with you.*

Silent Prayer:

Pastor: Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your family 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 Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **AMEN**

1 The Foretelling	Isaiah 53: 3-9	Lee Guenther
2 The Psalm of Final Confidence	Psalm 22: 1-11, 27-31	Rosemary Gordon
3 The Shadow of Betrayal	Matthew 26: 20-25	Byron Graves
4 The Shadow of Desertion	Matthew 26: 31-35	Janet Vawter

### *O Sacred Head*

*Attr. Bernard of Clairvaux*

Karen Guerini, Soprano

5 The Agony of Soul	Luke 22: 39-44	Walt Schrimper
6 The Unshared Vigil	Mark 14: 32-41	Amy Bishop
7 "Father, the Hour Is Come"	John 17: 1-5	Joe Bishop
8 "That They May Be One"	John 17: 6-11	Suzanne Getman

***Ah Holy Jesus***

***Johann Heermann***

9 The Arrest at the Gate	John 18: 1-5, 12	Houston Thomas
10 The Shadow of the Cross	Matthew 27:27-31	Cristaldawn Perry
11 The Crucifixion	Matthew 27:38-44	John Cameron
12 The Death of Jesus	Matthew 27: 45-51, 54	Charlotte Hicks
Darkness		

***Were You There?***

***African-American Spiritual***

Silence

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

The Resurrection Candle

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **AMEN**

*Please feel free to remain in the sanctuary for as long as you wish for prayer and meditation. Then, depart in silence.*

The service of *Tenebrae*, the Latin word for darkness, commemorates the final hours of Christ's life on earth through hymns and the reading of God's Word. Based on a tradition dating to the eighth century, candles are extinguished as the service progresses, which suggests the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. As the final candle, the Christ Candle is extinguished; the sanctuary is plunged into total darkness symbolizing the earth with the Savior departed. The sounds of the tearing of the temple veil, the ensuing earthquake and the splitting rocks are represented by the timpani. After a time of silence, meditation through a hymn, and the prayer taught by Jesus, the Christ Candle, now the Resurrection Candle, is relit as a reminder that the world's True Light can never be overcome.

*Musicians:*

*Karen Guerini, Soprano  
Donald Hicks, Percussionist*

**CHURCH STAFF**

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