## Wesley Memorial Methodist Church



## Good Friday Service of Shadows

April 18th, 2025



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## GOOD FRIDAY Service of Shadows

### April 18th, 2025

7:30 рм

Tenebrae, an ancient Good Friday service, increases darkness by gradually extinguishing candles to symbolize the coming darkness of Jesus' death. A Tenebrae service allows us to reflect on Christ's arrest, crucifixion, death and placement in the tomb. "Tenebrae" is Latin for "darkness," which plays a key role in the multi-sensory, somber experience.

### Prelude

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

arr. Robert Hebble

† Greeting

Congregation reads bold print

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all. Jesus Christ is the light of the world. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

## LET US PRAY:

Almighty God, Graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

## † Нуми No. 245

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

## PASSION CHORALE

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, Thine only crown: how pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn! How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain. Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place; look on me with Thy favor, vouch safe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee, dearest friend, for this Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end? O make me Thine forever; and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

SCRIPTURE

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

**O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.** Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

But I am a worm and not human, scorned by others and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they sneer at me; they shake their heads;

# "Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver-- let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast. On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

## Many bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

# I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they pierced my hands and feet.

I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;

they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

## I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

# For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

## The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

## For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

**Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord** and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

MUSIC Meditation on *Were You There?* 

## SERVICE OF SHADOWS

THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL

## THE SHADOW OF DESERTION

#### ANTHEM

Arise My Soul, Arise Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears; the bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears. Before the throne my Surety stands, my name is written on his hands.

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary; they pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me. "Forgive him, O forgive," they cry, "nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled; his pard'ning voice I hear. He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear. with confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.

THE SHADOW OF ACCUSATION

### THE SHADOW OF DENIAL

### Solo

Ah, Holy Jesus Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted! Matthew 26:6-30

Matthew 26:31-56

arr. Dan Forrest

Matthew 26:57-68

Matthew 26:69-75

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee! 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; *I* crucified thee.

*For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,* thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee, think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

THE SHADOW OF DESPAIR

THE SHADOW OF CONDEMNATION

### ANTHEM

Nearer, My God to Thee Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee! *E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,* Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee. Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

*Oh, let the way appear, leading to Heav'n;* All that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv'n; Thy Spirit beckons me, nearer, my God, to Thee. Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

There in my Father's home, safe and at rest, *There in my Savior's love, perfectly blest;* Age after age to be, nearer, my God, to Thee. Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

## THE SHADOW OF DEATH

**Recession of the Christ Candle** Improvisation on What Wondrous Love Is This?

## THE SHADOW OF THE TOMB

Stripping of the altar

Matthew 27:1-10

Matthew 27:11-26

arr. Dan Forrest

Matthew 27:27-57

Matthew 27:55-61

Please depart in silence as the bells toll.

#### WORSHIP LEADERS:

Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor Reverend Clark Chilton, Contemporary Worship/Evangelism Reverend Dr. Ken Lyon, Generosity/Church Vitality/Missions Reverend Susannah Pittman, Congregational Care/Adult Spiritual Formation Reverend Dr. Glenn Myers, Pastor of Visitation Chancel Choir Dr. Michael Dodds, violin Mr. Phillip Leach, baritone Ms. Charli Mills, Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts Mr. Chris Ward, Organist Mr. Wray Hodgin, usher Mr. Greg Smith, usher Mrs. Priscilla Smith, usher Mr. Tom Mason, usher Mr. James Robbins, acolyte Mr. David Robbins, acolyte Mr. Boone Chilton, crucifer Mr. Carraway Chilton, Bible

#### **Readers:**

Eamon Bryant Boone Chilton Clark Chilton Neal Howes Hartley Janney Stephanie Peters Ivan Siler Laura Simmonds **Friday, April 18, 2025** 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service (Sanctuary)

**Saturday, April 19, 2025** 7:30 p.m. Holy Saturday Service (Sanctuary) Candlelight service and baptismal reaffirmation

#### Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Columbarium7:30 a.m. TV Service on WGHP FOX88:30 a.m. Traditional Worship (Chapel)9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Fellowship

#### Adorn our crosses for Easter Sunday

Help our crosses bloom on Easter Sunday! Bring flowers (purchased or from your garden) to adorn the crosses outside the Sanctuary and Bridge Cafe entrance starting Saturday, April 19, 2025.

On Easter Sunday, enjoy a free digital image and 4x6 photo print from a professional photographer. Photos will be taken by the flower crosses outside the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall after the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services (refreshments provided). We look forward to celebrating with you!

#### Easter Offering: Rebuilding Lives

This year's Easter Offering theme is Rebuilding Lives, as we seek to make an impact locally, regionally, and globally through your generosity.

Locally, we are supporting Commander Peace Academy, a relatively new organization located on English Road. We have been very impressed with their work. The academy provides programs for at-risk young men and women, offering structure, mental support, educational opportunities, and essential life skills.

Regionally, we are continuing our support of neighbors in Western North Carolina as they rebuild their lives— both materially (through housing) and emotionally (through mental health support). As shared in the bulletin and other church publications, you have an opportunity to serve these individuals during Easter weekend. (To sign up, you may call the church office and leave your name and number.)

Globally, we are once again supporting the Good Samaritan Clinic in the Dominican Republic. Two years ago, Wesley Memorial helped rebuild their clean water system, which now serves Batey 7 and the surrounding area. This year, we will provide much-needed medications for those receiving care at the clinic, which is staffed by a single full-time physician. Two of our own members recently returned from serving there and described it as a life-changing experience.

We are so blessed at Wesley Memorial to have a congregation that is committed to sharing Christ's love and hope in so many ways. Thank you for your continued support.

- The Community Impact and Mission Team

