



Martin Ruiz Anglada, *Cristo Negro*, 1995.

The congregation is given the opportunity for quiet time during the opening music, as a time of prayer and meditation

Tenebrae (Latin for “shadows” or “darkness”) is a solemn observance of Jesus’s passion and death. The Tenebrae service marks Jesus’s journey to Golgotha and allows for meditation through proclamation of Word and music, increasing darkness, and silent reflection. We gather on the evening of Good Friday to enter into the dramatic narrative of Jesus’s betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion, and to reflect on God’s sacrificial love.

March 29, 2024 ~ Good Friday
7 p.m.

*congregational responses are in **bold**.*

GATHERING MUSIC

"Piano Trio - Variation on Hymn tunes"

W. Chris Winn

OPENING HYMN NO. 803 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

1 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.
2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.
3 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?
4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.
*All rise as able

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

P As we reconnect the Maundy Thursday's mantra, "Love one another, as I have loved you", what Jesus shows us in death, goes to the heart of the human condition. In a world of violence, Jesus practices compassion, and gives way to death. Jesus exposes corruption and dies with complete integrity. In a world of poverty, Jesus gives up everything to offer eternal life to others. Jesus makes it clear, whatever the situation, practical, sacrificial, cross-bearing love, is the greatest confrontation and challenge to the broken systems of our world.

HYMN

"O Love"

Elaine Hagenberg

CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Isaiah 52:13-15*

L: We begin our journey together,

C: Everlasting God, be near me in this hour of intense soul searching. May my heart be open to every heavenly message and ready to receive --- and cherish ----- every sacred memory and perception. Impress on me the power of death that this day commemorates. Let a portion of the Spirit that led my Savior to the cross descend and fill my heart with love for you and every person in my sphere. Here and now - ----- may every selfish passion and desire be quieted, and may the peace that surpasses my limited understanding ----- keep my heart and mind in Jesus Christ.
Amen

MUSIC

"Were You There"

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

**Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?**

LESSON I: The Passion of Our Lord According to John

Jesus is betrayed in a garden.

John 18:1-11

[Jesus] went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.² Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴ Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" ⁵ They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶ When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." ⁹ This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. ¹¹ Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

First candle extinguished

In the Garden

L This day seems to be all about death, Jesus;
 what else is it when you are arrested,
 accused,
 beaten,
 betrayed,
 crucified?

But, when we look a little closer,
we discover it's really all about life;
integrity unbowed by expediency,
love unchanged by hatred,
humility undeterred by power,
truth untainted by lies;
and real, vibrant, fearless life breaking through it all.

You died, Jesus, because you refused to settle for anything less,

than genuine, eternal life,
for you, and for us all.

Teach us to live by the same creed,
to refuse to cling to a life that is less than real,
less than honest, humble and loving;
and to be so resolute in our quest for life,
that we will always be ready to die
in order to find it and share it.

C Amen.

MUSIC

"Adoramus te"

W. Chris Winn

LESSON II: Jesus is denied by Peter.

John 18:12–27

¹²So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

¹⁹Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." ²²When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" ²⁴Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Second candle extinguished

MUSIC

"All sing O Sacred Head, with Stabat Mater interludes"

"Stabat Mater - 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; O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn; how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn! Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.

LESSON III: Jesus and Barabbas before Pilate.

John 18:28–40

²⁸Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" ³⁰They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." ³¹Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." ³²(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Third candle extinguished

MUSIC

"Were You There"

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

**Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there
when they nailed him to the tree?**

LESSON IV: Jesus stands trial before the crowds.

John 19:1–16a

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. ⁴Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." ⁵So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" ⁶When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." ⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

⁸Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" ¹¹Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." ¹²From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

¹³When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" ¹⁵They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." ¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Fourth candle extinguished

MUSIC

"Requiem Aeternam"

Cornelius

LESSON V: Jesus is crucified.

John 19:16b–25a

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and

it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Fifth candle extinguished

MUSIC

"Were You There"

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

LESSON VI: Jesus dies.

John 19:25b–30

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Sixth candle extinguished

MUSIC

"They Crucified My Lord"

Spiritual

L The darkness may try to hide it, God,
but this is truly Good Friday;
a day of endless miracle, of incredible wonder.
That you would welcome the beam to your shoulders,
and beckon the nails to your flesh,
to crucify darkness in your own fragmented body.

That you would hold the gaze of hatred,

look boldly in the face of evil
and speak the soft words of forgiveness.

That you would embrace in your paralyzed arms
your hardened companion in death,
and all who would seek comfort in you.
Promising a world made new,
and an eternity brought into the present moment.

Yes, absolutely a day of wonders and miracles
and we are in awe before its beauty.

C Amen.

MUSIC

"B'yado"

Craig Taubman

LESSON VII: Jesus is buried in a garden.

John 19:31–42

³¹Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. ³²Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. ³⁵(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) ³⁶These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." ³⁷And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

³⁸After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. ³⁹Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Seventh candle extinguished

MUSIC

"Prayer for Good Friday"

W. Chris Winn

L We pray
C Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.