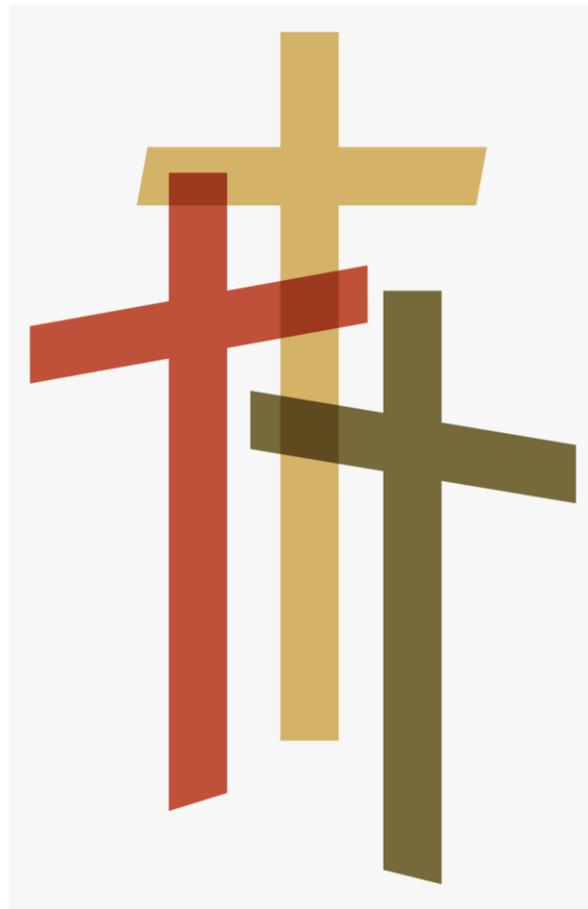


Zion Lutheran Church

Oldwick, New Jersey



Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 18, 2025

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Behold, the life-giving cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.

O come, let us worship him.

Our God has made with us a new covenant, saying, "I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them in their minds."

Therefore, God will remember our sins and lawless deeds no more.

Since then, we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith.

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.

ORGAN INTERLUDE

OPENING DIALOGUE

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN

I. THE WATCH

John 18:1-12

Extinguishing the Candle

HYMN

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

ELW 599, v. 1-3

- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;
from selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me, by anxious thoughts oppressed;
let me your loving servant be and taste your promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity point out your chosen way.

II. THE DENIAL

John 18:13-27

Extinguishing the Candle

HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

ELW 517

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we may sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

III. JESUS IN FRONT OF PILATE

John 18:28—19:7

Extinguishing the Candle

HYMN

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

ELW 502, v. 1-3

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

IV. THE SENTENCE

John 19:8-16

Extinguishing the Candle

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

ELW 351

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing die safely in thy love.

V. THE CRUCIFIXION

John 19:17-22

Extinguishing the Candle

ANTHEM

“Calvary”

Lloyd Larson

Calvary, Calvary, Calvary, Calvary, surely he died on Calvary.
Every time I think about Jesus (3x), surely he died on Calvary.
Don't you hear Him calling to His father? (3x) Surely he died on Calvary.
Don't you hear him say "it is finished?" (3x) Surely he died on Calvary.

VI. JESUS' DEATH

John 19:23-30

Extinguishing the Candle

Silent Prayer and Meditation

VII. FULFILLMENT OF SCRIPTURE

John 19:31-42

Extinguishing the Candle

FROM DEATH TO HOPE

The Christ Candle is taken from view.

A thunderous noise symbolizes the earthquake after Jesus dies.

ANTHEM

"I Do Not Sleep"

David Lantz III

Do not stand by my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am the music that you hear, I am the joy and not the fear.
I am all things that you hold dear; I am with you.
Do not stand by my grave and weep; do not stand by my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep. I am not there, I do not sleep.
My soul is flying in the wind; my soul is flying in the wind.
It went to heav'n and back again.
God sends his love to you, dear friends and I'm with you.
The willows smile for me, the flowers in full bloom;
My love for family is with you in this room.
So take you memories and keep them in your hearts
My soul is here with you, and I did not depart,
I live in all your hearts, in all your hearts.
Do not stand by my grave and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep.

The Christ Candle is brought back into view.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

John 3:16-21

Please stand, as you are able.

HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

ELW 338

- 1 Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.
- 2 Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.

(continued on next page)

3 I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

DISMISSAL

Behold, the life-giving cross, on which hung the salvation of the world.
O come, let us worship him.
We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.
By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

All are welcome to remain for a time of prayer and meditation.

Thank you to this evening's worship assistants.

Readers: David Blackwood, Gerry Dehkes,
Jeff Livingston, Sandy Matsen,
Cait O'Neill, Gereon Wiese
Greeters: Jeff & Helen Livingston
Ushers: Joanne Rupp & David Wintemute
Altar Guild: Joanne Rupp

Join Us for Worship on Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at Readington Reformed Church

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Communion Worship at Zion



Connecting People with God's Grace

Pastor

The Rev. Katherine Steinly

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Jaime VanNostrand

Director of Music

Steven Pezzella

Bell Choir Director

Janet Hornich