

Southminster Presbyterian Church



Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service
April 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

This is a Tenebrae service during which the candles are extinguished one by one until only one candle remains. At the end of the service, in observation of the approach of Good Friday, the Christ Candle is removed from the sanctuary.

The story of Jesus' journey to the Cross will be presented through dramatic monologues written by the senior pastor and portrayed by members of the congregation. The pastors will read the Scriptures.

In Preparation for Worship

*Please have a candle or several lit in your worship space,
and you can extinguish them as the service progresses.*

*For Communion: Please have a cup of juice and a piece
of any kind of bread for each person worshipping in your home.*

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Call to Worship

Sharon Boyko

One: This is a day to remember.

All: We remember the Passover Jesus shared with the disciples.

One: We remember the new covenant of broken bread and cup.

All: We remember his night alone in the garden in prayer.

One: We remember his arrest, his trial, his suffering, and the denial of his friend.

All: We remember and thank God for Jesus' presence with us then and with us now.

Hymn # 209

"My Song Is Love Unknown"
Cari Sullivan will lead us in singing the hymns.

verses 1 and 5

I. THE SUPPER

The Story: Luke 22:14-16

Peter

Gay Amos

Hymn # 517

“Here, O Our Lord, We See You Face to Face”

verses 1 and 2

Extinguish Candle

Bill Boyko

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*After the words, “The Body of Christ, given for you,” are spoken,
serve yourself or a family member, saying the same words.*

*After the words, “The Cup of the New Covenant, given for you,”
are spoken, do the same.*

Invitation

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Breaking of the Bread and Lifting of the Cup

II. STAY WITH ME

The Story: Mark 14:32-34

Jesus

Ben Locke

Hymn # 204

“Stay With Me”

sing twice

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and pray. Watch and pray." The score consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with the bass part providing harmonic support. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the bass part.

The Story: Psalm 23:4

John

Robbie Herner

Extinguish Candle

Bill Boyko

III. PRAYER AND ANGUISH

The Story: Psalm 143:10

Jesus

Ben Locke

Extinguish Candle

Bill Boyko

IV. DENIED AND BETRAYED

The Story: Mark 14:44-45

Peter
Judas

*Gay Amos
Josh Sweeney
Sharon Boyko*

Extinguish Candle

Hymn # 218

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

verses 1 and 2

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Sharon Boyko

Surely not us, Lord? Surely we are not the ones who will betray you. It's someone else who denies knowing you, someone else who uses you for their own gain, someone else who wants to control you. Forgive us, God, for the times we have betrayed you with our words— speaking thoughtlessly, hurting someone to get a laugh, denying that your call extends to the parts of our lives we would rather keep to ourselves. Forgive us for the times we have betrayed you with our hearts - putting you far down our priority lists, loving our ideas about you more than we love you, longing for our way to be the one you choose. Through the power of your Spirit, transform us in love and use us to touch other lives with the wonders of your grace.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*One: Hear the Good News! God has come, in Jesus Christ,
to fill us with hope and bathe us in grace and mercy.*

**All: In Christ, we are forgiven and invited to a new way of living.
We will do our best to bring hope where there is despair;
to be servants of those who are broken; and to love as God loves us.**

Response to Forgiveness

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Hymn # 218, verse 4

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

V. BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Story: Luke 22:66

The High Priest

Ralph Adkins

Extinguish Candle

Sharon Boyko

VI. CONSCIENCE OR THE CROWD?

The Story: Matthew 27:1-2

Pilate

Mark Ferguson

Extinguish Candle

Sharon Boyko

VII. JUST PASSING BY

The Story: Mark 15:21-23
Extinguish Candle

Simon of Cyrene

*Todd Hall
Sharon Boyko*

A Prayer for Maundy Thursday, and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn # 223

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

omit verse 2

One Candle

*One light remains: the light of Christ.
In that light, we find forgiveness, fellowship, and hope,
even in the darkest times.*

Anthem

“Were You There?”
Dorian Arnold, soloist

arr. Melva Wilson Costen

Removal of the Christ Candle

As we move from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday, we are reminded of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross and his three days in the tomb. At the end of tonight's service, the Christ Candle will be removed to remind us of the darkness ahead.

Silence

At the end of this service, please spend some time in silence, meditating on God's love and the meaning of Jesus' journey to the Cross.