



ST. PAUL'S
PRESBYTERIAN

For The Glory of God & The Joy of All Peoples

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

Maundy Thursday Evening Service
April 2, 2026, at 7:00 pm



To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire hope; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come—this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The sounding of the bells calls us to quiet our hearts before worship.

Welcome

Prelude

And He Never Said a Word
Michael Ryan

Call to Worship

From Psalm 34

Minister: I will bless the LORD at all times!

People: His praise shall continually be in my mouth!

Minister: My soul makes its boast in the LORD!

People: Let the humble hear and be glad!

Minister: Oh, magnify the LORD with me and let us exalt his name together!

The word “maundy” is derived from the Latin mandatum which means mandate or commandment. We observe Maundy Thursday because of the “new commandment” Jesus gave his disciples in John 13:34, just before his death, “to love one another.”

† congregation standing

✠ congregation kneeling

† **Hymn of Proclamation**

Hymn A • Trinity Hymnal #535

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

EBENEZER

† **Greeting**

Minister: This is the night that Christ, the Lamb of God, gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him. This is the night that Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us. This is the night that Christ our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his holy sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection and at the last day may reign with him in heaven. The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Let us pray.

Unison: Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

† **Gospel Reading**

John 13:1-35

Pew Bible, page 900

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Thanks be to the Lord!

Prayer for Illumination

Homily

Rev. Scott Hunt

HOLY WEEK:

He Loved Them to the End

✠ Prayer of Confession

Unison: Most merciful God, we acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in bondage to sin, prone to do evil, and unable of our own power to do good. We have turned away from you, the fountain of living water, and have attempted to satisfy the thirst in our souls with things that ultimately can't satisfy. Forgive us, O Lord, for the rebellion and treason in our hearts. We have sinned not just against your commandments, but against you by pursuing what is evil in your sight. We have sinned against your love and kindness. With heartfelt sorrow we repent, acknowledging our inability to change our own hearts and our constant need for the work of your Spirit to transform us. Have mercy on us, Father of mercies, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please take a moment to silently confess your sin.

✠ Assurance of Pardon

I Peter 2:24

Minister: Jesus Christ bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

† Sanctus

Sanctus I

Traditional Text; Musical Setting by Ronald Owen



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - migh - ty!



All of your cre - a - tion bows down and kneels be-fore you.



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, an-gels all a - dore you.



Heav'n and earth are full of your pow-er and your



glo - ry! Ho - ly are you Lord God of hosts.

“Sanctus” means “holy” in Latin. In historic Christian liturgies, a hymn of praise acknowledging the holiness of God is often sung before the celebration of the Lord’s Supper.

HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer of Dedication

Words of Institution

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the faith:

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Distribution of the Elements

Communion Hymn

Hymn B • Trinity Hymnal #257

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN

Communion Hymn

Hymn C • Trinity Hymnal #656

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

JESU, MEINE FREUDE

TENEBRAE: THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS

The Shadow of Betrayal

The first candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:17-25

The Shadow of Desertion

The second candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:30-35

Hymn

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

Hymn D • Trinity Hymnal #248 (Verses 1 and 2)

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

The Shadow of Christ's Agony of Spirit

The third candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:36-46

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

Hymn E • Trinity Hymnal #261

WONDROUS LOVE

The Shadow of Arrest and Injustice

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:47-68

Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Hymn F • Trinity Hymnal #247

PASSION CHORALE

The Shadow of Denial

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Matthew 26:69-75

Silent Prayer and Meditation

Lighting of the Resurrection Candle

Silent Recessional

Tenebrae is a Latin word that means "darkness." In the Tenebrae service, lights are gradually extinguished as the narrative of Christ's passion is read to help us remember all he suffered for us and for our salvation.

The Resurrection Candle symbolizes our anticipation of the resurrection of our Lord.

Please exit the Sanctuary silently, following the pastors.

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. John 13:1

1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Vast, un - mea - sured,
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread his praise from
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Love of ev - 'ry

bound - less, free; roll - ing as a might - y o - cean
 shore to shore; how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth,
 love the best: 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing,

in its full - ness o - ver me. Un - der - neath me,
 chang - eth nev - er, nev - er - more; how he watch - es
 'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep

all a - round me, is the cur - rent of thy love;
 o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
 love of Je - sus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;

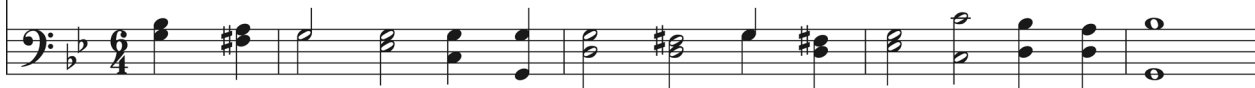
lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove.
 how for them he in - ter - ced - eth, watch - eth o'er them from the throne.
 and it lifts me up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee.

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

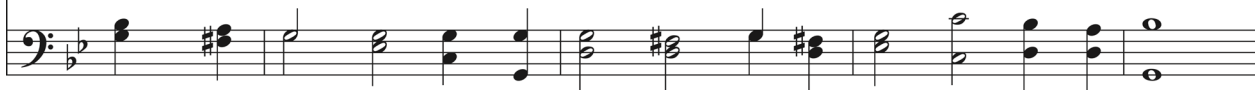
We considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. Is. 53:4



1. Strick-en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see him dy - ing on the tree!
 2. Tell me, ye who hear him groan-ing, was there ev - er grief like his?
 3. Ye who think of sin but light - ly nor sup - pose the e - vil great
 4. Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the ref - uge of the lost;



'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
 Friends thro' fear his cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing his dis-tress;
 here may view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate.
 Christ's the Rock of our sal - va - tion, his the name of which we boast.

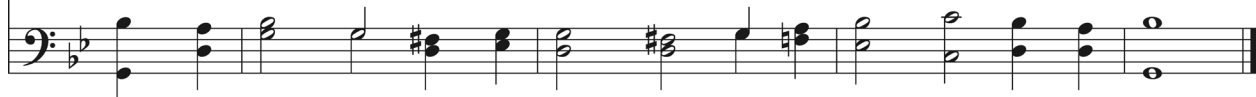


'Tis the long - ex - spect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's son, yet Da - vid's Lord;
 man - y hands were raised to wound him, none would in - ter - pose to save;
 Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, see who bears the aw - ful load;
 Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound-ed, sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!



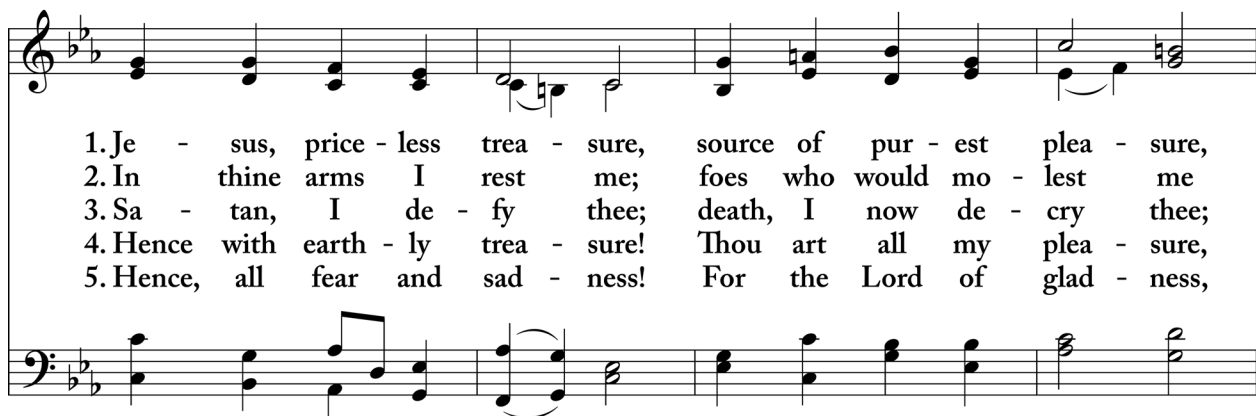


by his Son God now has spo - ken: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.
but the deep - est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.
'tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
None shall ev - er be con-found - ed who on him their hope have built.

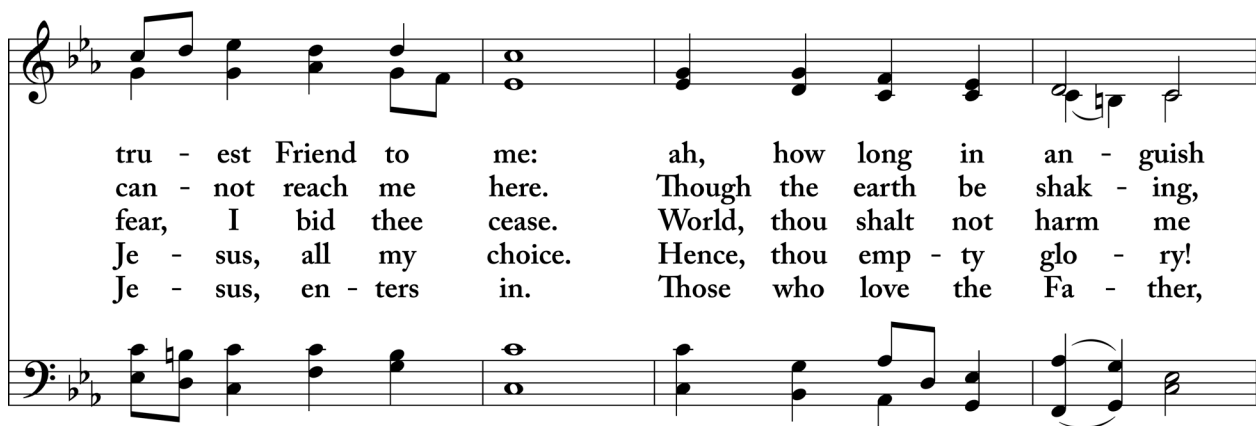


Jesus, Priceless Treasure

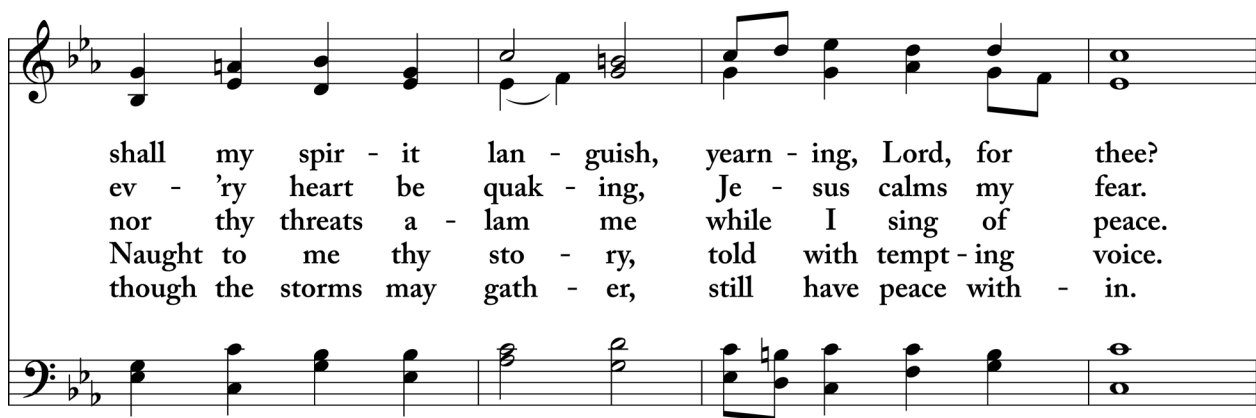
To you who believe ... [he] is precious. 1 Pet. 2:7



1. Je - sus, price - less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
 2. In thine arms I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
 3. Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; death, I now de - cry thee;
 4. Hence with earth - ly trea - sure! Thou art all my plea - sure,
 5. Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est Friend to me: ah, how long in an - guish
 can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus, all my choice. Hence, thou emp - ty glo - ry!
 Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,



shall my spir - it lan - guish, yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
 ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 nor thy threats a - lam me while I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry, told with tempt - ing voice.
 though the storms may gath - er, still have peace with - in.

Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb! I will suf - fer naught to
 Light - nings flash and thun - ders crash; yet, though sin and hell as -
 God's great pow'r guards ev - 'ry hour; earth and all its depths a -
 Pain or loss or shame or cross shall not from my Sav - ior
 Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, thou art still my pur - est

hide thee, naught I ask be - side thee.
 sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 dore him, si - lent bow be - fore him.
 move me, since he deigns to love me.
 plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure.

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. Is. 53:4



1. Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed,
2. Who was the guilt - y who brought this up - on thee?



that man to judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de -
A - las, my trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord



rid - ed, by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
Je - sus, I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.



What Wondrous Love Is This

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1

1. What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what
2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm

this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my
Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on!

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities. Is. 53:5

1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2. What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:
 3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est Friend,

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 for this, thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?

O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 look on me with thy fa - vor, vouch - safe to me thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153
 Tr. by Paul Gerhardt, 1656
 Tr. by James W. Alexander, 1830

PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6.D
 Hans Leo Hassler, 1601
 Arr. by Johann Sebastian Bach, 1729

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