



**Welcome to St. Luke's Church  
Friday, March 29, 2024**

**Good Friday Tenebrae**

**Our Vision:  
To Know God and To Make Him Known**

*Visitors are not expected to participate in the offering.  
We hope you enjoy visiting with us today. Please come again soon.*

[www.stlukesakron.com](http://www.stlukesakron.com)

The solemn observance of Tenebrae was first celebrated in the 4th century. "Tenebrae" means "darkness" and refers to the approaching spiritual darkness - the blows, betrayals, sorrow, and suffering, that Jesus endured.

In this service, candles are gradually extinguished as we keep watch with Jesus in the events leading to his crucifixion.

At his death total darkness engulfs us, but then the central Christ Candle is relit as a prophecy of the Easter soon to dawn when God, not the powers of darkness, will have the last word.

Following the service, the rule of silence should be observed by all worshippers. There is only a silent recognition of friends.

### **Meditation**

The gospel accounts were all written "on this side of Easter." That is to say, early followers of Jesus, including the authors of the Gospels, had the benefit of looking back on an event and seeing in it the working of God.

In addition to the cross being an act of human treachery and brutality, they were able to see the crucifixion of Jesus as also God's act.

The crucifixion was viewed not only as an act of hostility on the part of human beings toward God's messenger but also an act of immeasurable love on the part of the One who had sent that messenger.

*Thomas R. Yoder Neufeld, Recovering Jesus*

### **Prelude**

#### **"Were You There"**

Frederick J. Work | John W. Work Jr. © Words & Music: Public Domain  
CCLI License # 73146

### **Call to Worship**

Celebrant: God commends his love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**All: Behold the Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world!**

## Opening Song

### “Jesus Messiah”

He became sin, who knew no sin  
That we might become His righteousness  
He humbled Himself and carried the cross  
Love so amazing, Love so amazing

Chorus: Jesus, Messiah, Name above all names  
Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel  
The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all

His body the bread, His blood the wine  
Broken and poured out, all for love  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn  
Love so amazing, Love so amazing (Chorus)

Bridge: All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You  
All the glory to You God, the Light of the world

Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves © 2008 sixsteps Music,  
Vamos Publishing, [worshiptogether.com](http://worshiptogether.com) songs, Wondrously Made Songs  
CCLI License # 73146

## Invocation

**All: Almighty God, we ask that you would graciously look upon your people, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to be given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer the breaking of his body and pouring out of his blood on the cross.**

**Speak to our hearts this evening so that with sincere gratitude we may keep watch with Jesus in the shadow of the cross. Lead us to Calvary. Amen.**

## The Message

### The Passion of Jesus

With responsive readings from prophetic passages in Isaiah and Psalms and readings from the Gospel according to Matthew.

## 1. The Agony of Soul and Spirit... *Jesus prays alone, unsupported*

Celebrant: Is it nothing to you, all you that pass by?

**All: Look and see if there be any sorrow like unto his sorrow.**

Reading: Matthew 26:30-41

### **“Go To Dark Gethsemane (Redhead)”**

Go to dark Gethsemane  
Ye that feel the tempter's pow'r  
Your Redeemer's conflict see  
Watch with Him one bitter hour  
Turn not from His griefs away  
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray

Follow to the judgment hall  
View the Lord of life arraigned  
O the wormwood and the gall  
O the pangs His soul sustained  
Shun not suff'ring shame or loss  
Learn of Him to bear the cross

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb  
There adoring at His feet  
Mark that miracle of time  
God's own sacrifice complete  
It is finished hear the cry  
Learn of Jesus Christ to die

James Montgomery | Richard Redhead © Words & Music: Public Domain  
CCLI License # 73146

## 2. Betrayed and Deserted... *by His disciples*

Celebrant: It is not an enemy who taunts me - then I could bear it;

**All: It is not an adversary who deals insolently with me - then I could hide from him.**

Celebrant: But it is you, my equal, my companion; my familiar friend with whom I kept pleasant company;

**All: We walked in the house of God with the throng.**

*Psalm 55:13-14*

Reading: Matthew 26:42-56

### **“Were You There”**

Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble tremble tremble  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb

Frederick J. Work | John W. Work Jr. © Words & Music: Public Domain  
CCLI License # 73146

### **3. Falsely Accused and Condemned ... by religious leaders**

Celebrant: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth;

**All: Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth.**

Celebrant: By oppression and judgment he was taken away.

*Isaiah 53:7-8a*

Reading: Matthew 26:57-68

*A moment of silence is kept.*

#### 4. Disowned and Abandoned... *by friends*

Celebrant: Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

**All: For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground;**

Celebrant: He had no form or comeliness that we should look at him,

**All: And no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;**

Celebrant: And as one from whom we hide our faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. *Isaiah 53:1-3*

Reading: Matthew 26:69-75

#### **“Kyrie Eleison”**

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy  
Hear our cry and heal our land  
Let kindness lead us to repentance  
Bring us back again

Chorus: For Your name is great and Your heart is grace  
Kyrie Eleison  
Over all You reign You alone can save  
Kyrie Eleison  
Lord have mercy  
Christ have mercy on us now

Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Matt Maher | Matt Redman © 2016

#### 5. Rejected and Denied... *by his people*

Celebrant: By oppression and judgment he was taken away;

**All: And as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?**

*Isaiah 53:8*

Reading: Matthew 27:1-2, 11-24

### “Ah Holy Jesus”

Ah holy Jesu how hast Thou offended  
That so to judge Thee mortals have pretended  
By foes derided by Thine own rejected  
O most afflicted

Who was the guilty who brought this upon Thee  
Alas O Lord my treason Lord that hath undone Thee  
'Twas I Lord Jesu I it was denied Thee  
I crucified Thee

Lo the good Shepherd for the sheep is offered  
The slave hath sinned and the Son hath suffered  
For our atonement Christ Himself is pleading  
Still interceding

For me kind Jesu was Thy incarnation  
Thy mortal sorrow and Thy life's oblation  
The death of anguish and Thy bitter passion  
For my salvation

Therefore kind Jesu 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

Johann Heermann | Robert Seymour Bridges © Words & Music: Public Domain  
CCLI License # 73146

## 6. Beaten and Degraded... *by the gentiles*

Celebrant: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

**All: Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

Celebrant: But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;

**All: Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes, we are healed.**

Celebrant: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. *Isaiah 53:4-6*

Reading: Matthew 27:26-30

### **“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”**

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 tho' despised and gory  
I joy to call Thee mine

Men mock and taunt and jeer Thee  
Thou noble countenance  
Though mighty worlds shall fear Thee  
And flee before Thy glance  
How art Thou pale with anguish  
With sore abuse and scorn  
How doth Thy visage languish  
That once was bright as morn

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



## 7. Mocked and in Pain... *the road of sorrows*

Celebrant: I am a worm, despised and scorned by everyone

**All: All who see me make fun of me; they stick out their tongues and shake their heads.**

Celebrant: "You relied on the Lord," they say. Why doesn't he save you?

**All: If the Lord likes you, why doesn't he help you?"**

Celebrant: My strength is gone, gone like water spilled on the ground.

**All: All my bones are out of joint;**

Celebrant: My heart feels like melted wax inside me.

**All: My throat is as dry as dust, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.**

Celebrant: You have left me for dead in the dust. Brutal enemies attack me, like a pack of dogs.

**All: They pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.**

Celebrant: They stare and gloat over me. They gamble for my clothes and divide them among themselves.

**All: Hurry and help me, my Savior!**

*Psalm 22:5b-8,14-21*

Reading: Matthew 27:31-44

### **"Oh The Cross"**

You carried the cross upon your back  
Bleeding until your final breath  
Tears of blood, a crown of thorns  
You gave it all, our sins you bore  
Oh oh There is no greater love

Chorus: Oh the cross what you've done  
It was more than enough  
More than enough  
Oh the cross what you've done  
The power of your blood was more than enough

The sacrifice that changed history  
The nails in your hands the hands that saved me  
The grave was sealed, death lost its sting  
As the lion roared in victory

Bridge: Thank you for breaking the bread of your body  
Spilling the wine of your blood  
Thank you oh my heart will sing forever  
It is finished, it is done!  
We sing praises to the One!

Elyssa Smith | Jeremy Riddle | Lindy Conant © 2020 Heritage Worship  
Publishing, UR Creative, Lindy Conant Cofer, Vindicate Publishing, Watershed  
Worship Publishing CCLI License # 73146

## 8. Crucified... *left to die*

Celebrant: And they made his grave with the wicked and with a  
rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and  
there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to  
bruise him; He has put him to grief. *Isaiah 53:9-10*

Reading: Matthew 27:45-51

### “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

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.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the cross of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them, to His blood.

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.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were an off'ring far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul; my life, my all.

Isaac Watts | Michael James © Words: Public Domain | Music: 1986 Word  
Music, LLC CCLI License # 73146

**9. Buried... *in another's tomb***

Reading: Matthew 27:54-60

*The Christ Candle is removed.*

**10. Darkness and Silence... *tolling the bell***

*The Christ Candle is brought back anticipating the Resurrection.*

*All leave in silence, please.*