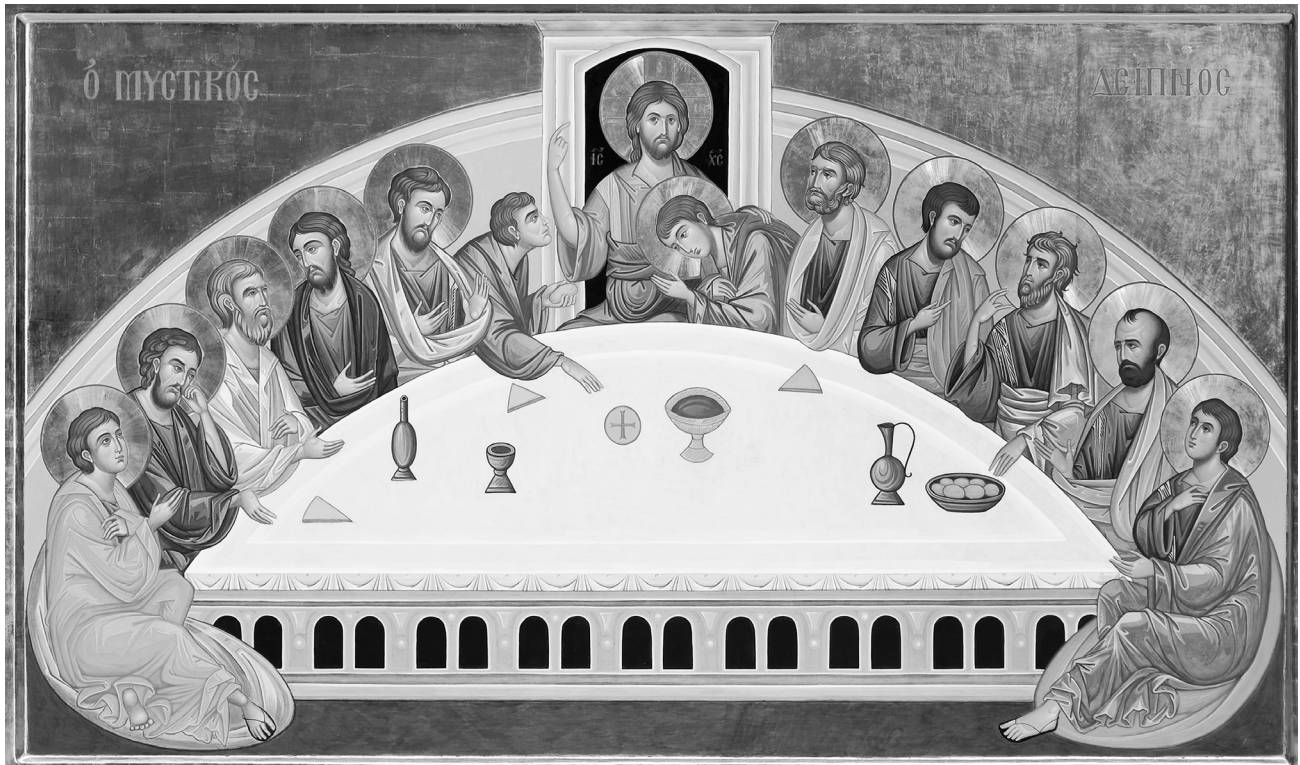


Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service

APRIL 17, 2025

6:30 P.M.



THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHICAGO

This service is an adaptation of the ancient office of Tenebrae (from the Latin word for “shadows”), which included a solemn observance of Holy Communion.

The office is a portrayal of the progression from light to darkness in the passion of Jesus, beginning with his abandonment on Thursday and concluding with his crucifixion on Friday.

Prelude

Lamb of God. Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship

One: *On this dark night, the prayers of earth are lifted from the silent and sometimes secret places of our hearts;*

All: **the prayers of earth confess the deep sadness that our sin has made this night necessary.**

One: *On this dark night, we remember that his heart was broken for us,*

All: **and in his body he bore our sin and shame.**

One: *On this dark night, our hearts are filled with few words but many prayers, as we remember that God took all the evil we could muster.*

***Hymn 202 “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”**

An upper room did our Lord prepare for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there to celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own: to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.

And after supper he washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace. He loves beyond our uttermost:
in every room in our Father’s house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

The Shadow of Betrayal. Luke 22:1–12

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

***Hymn 206 “This Is the Night”**

This is the night, dear friends, the night for weeping,
when powers of darkness overcome the day,
the night the faithful mourn the weight of evil
whereby our sins the Son of Man betray.

This night the traitor, wolf within the sheepfold,
betrays himself into his victim’s will,
the Lamb of God for sacrifice preparing:
sin brings about the cure for sin’s own ill.

This night Christ institutes his holy supper,
blest food and drink for heart and soul and mind;
this night injustice joins its hand to treason’s,
and buys the ransom-price of humankind.

The Shadow of Agony of the Spirit. Matthew 26:36–44

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Anthem

“Tantum Ergo” Jessica French

*Let us therefore bowing low, venerate so great a Sacrament;
and let the old law give way to the new rite;
let faith afford assistance to the deficiency of the senses.
To the everlasting Father, and the Son who reigns on high,
with the Holy Ghost proceeding, forth from each eternally,
be salvation, honor, blessing, might, and endless majesty.*

The Shadow of Arrest Mark 14:43–49

***Hymn 218.** “Ah, Holy Jesus”

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, 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, while we nothing heeded, God interceded.

The Shadow of Desertion Mark 14:50, 66–72

***Hymn 215.** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;
and when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on;
and when from death I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;
and through eternity I’ll sing on.

The Shadow of Accusation Matthew 27:11–18, 21–26

Choral Response

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” Hans Leo Hassler

*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.*

The Shadow of Crucifixion Matthew 27:27–37

Choral Response

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” Hans Leo Hassler

*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.*

The Shadow of Death Matthew 27:45–54

Homily. Tom Are Jr.

The Shadow of the Tomb Luke 23:50–53

Solo

“Were You There” African American spiritual

*There is no benediction this day.
Our watch continues into the night to the cross of Good Friday,
the limbo of Holy Saturday, and the miracle of the empty tomb.
Please depart in silence.*

A NOTE ON HOLY WEEK AND ANTISEMITISM

The Passion texts can pose problems for Christian-Jewish relations. For centuries, many Christians blamed “The Jews” for Christ’s death. This interpretation is incorrect, misguided, and dangerous. In fact, crucifixion was solely a Roman form of punishment, one used to frighten subjugated peoples into obeying Roman authority. Tragically, Christians have misused the reading of the Passion to foment violent antisemitic pogroms. Antisemitism still plagues the world. We read these texts with sensitivity and caution, remembering the cruelties and failures of our past.

We are grateful to be worshipping with you this evening and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church. ✨ Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, **we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation.** ✨ We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice. ✨ **For ways to connect with one another and Fourth Church,** whether in person or online, as well as for various resources, please visit our website: fourthchurch.org



Please let us know you are here by filling out an information form. Those worshipping with us via livestream will find **a link to the online form** included in the descriptive text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*). Those worshipping with us in person are asked to use the **information pads in the pews.**



Tomorrow we will observe Good Friday with a Good Friday service at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary; a 5:30 p.m. program in Buchanan Chapel for children and families; and a 6:30 p.m. Choral Service, which will conclude with the tolling of the bells thirty-three times, one for each year of Jesus' life on earth. The 6:30 p.m. choral service will be livestreamed on YouTube (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos) and will feature Franz Josef Haydn's *Stabat Mater*, presented by the Fourth Church Morning and Chancel Choirs and members of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.



We hope you will join us on **Easter Sunday** for our joyous celebration of the resurrection! We will gather for three services: **6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service** with Communion at Oak Street Beach and **9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Easter services** in the Sanctuary. **The 9:30 a.m. Easter service will be livestreamed** on YouTube (bit.ly/fpcvideos), with the prelude beginning at approximately 9:15 a.m. and the service available for viewing anytime after that. **Those without Internet access** are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service. ✨ An **Easter program for children** will be held in the Gratz Center at 9:30 a.m. on Easter; nursery care will be available between 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. ✨ **For more about observing Holy Week and Easter,** see fourthchurch.org/lent-easter

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Worship Leaders

Mary Zeltmann
Nancy Benson-Nichol *Associate Pastor*
James Young
Nanette Sawyer *Associate Pastor*
Joseph L. Morrow *Associate Pastor*
Amy Pagliarella *Parish Associate*
Matt Helms *Associate Pastor*
Rocky Supinger *Senior Associate Pastor*
Tom Are Jr. *Interim Pastor*

The Music Tonight

The Morning and Chancel Choirs
Bill McMurray, soloist
Doug Cleveland, Interim Organist and Director of Music

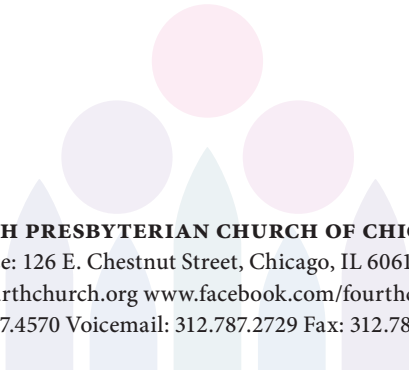
SOURCES AND CREDITS: The worship order is based on "The Wrath of the Lamb: A Tenebrae Service" published by Reformed Worship, 1998. "This Is the Night" text © 1990 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company); music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company. "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare" text © 1974 Hope Publishing Company; music harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company. "What Wondrous Love Is This" music harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company). All rights reserved. Used by permission. OneLicense.net. License A-712340.

Worship Notes

MAUNDY THURSDAY RECEIVES ITS NAME from the Latin *mandatum novum do vobis*, meaning "A new commandment I give you." This new commandment, given by Jesus on the night he washed the disciples' feet, was "to love one another just as I have loved you." It is his example of—and our call to—love and service that we remember on Maundy Thursday.

WE ARE RECEIVING A SPECIAL ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING throughout Holy Week. Gifts to this offering support the work of Fourth Church Meals Ministry; and Chicago Lights Tutoring and Social Service Center; and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Hunger, and Self-Development of People programs. To make a "One Great Hour of Sharing" gift, you can use the envelopes found in the pew racks (*and then place the envelope in one of the offering boxes at the exits*), designate "One Great Hour of Sharing" (OGHS) when giving via Venmo or at fourthchurch.org/give, or write OGHS on the memo line of a check made payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tom Are Jr. Interim Pastor
Rocky Supinger Senior Associate Pastor
Associate Pastors
Nancy Benson-Nicol Caring Ministries and Spiritual Formation
Matt Helms Children, Family, and Welcoming Ministries
Joseph L. Morrow Evangelism and Community Engagement
Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry
Amy Pagliarella Parish Associate for Caring Ministries



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