

April 18, 2025 | Good Friday | 7:00PM

ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Church on the Corner whose Cornerstone is Christ



Come Hear the Reason we're Inspired to Serve Together

*We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word,
preaching salvation through believing in Christ as our Savior.*

We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

“Tenebrae” means shadows or darkness. This is a service which moves from light to darkness, symbolizing the fading loyalty of the followers of Jesus, impressing upon us the reality of sin which made necessary Jesus’ death for us. Eight candles are used in the service. Seven represent the seven readings as well as the seven last words of Jesus from the cross. The eighth represents the Christ Candle. One by one, the candles will be extinguished, reminding us of the darkness which covered the earth at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, and the darkness which would exist in our lives had the “Light of the World” not come. The exit of the Christ Candle at the close of the service represents the fulfillment of the sacrifice of the Cross, and the loss in our lives without him. The Christ Candle is not extinguished, symbolic of the eternal light of God’s love and in anticipation of the Spirit of Christ being alive in the world.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Ringling of the Tower Bells and Lighting of the Altar Candles

Prelude

“The Power of the Cross”

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer

Isaiah 53:1-5 (p. 731)

†Call to Worship

L: Tonight we gather to remember the journey and the suffering of the cross.

P: As God’s people we seek to remember his sacrifice.

L: We journey through God’s Word aware of our thoughts and emotions.

P: We respond with thanksgiving, humbleness, brokenness and grace.

†Hymn

#185, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Scripture

John 19:1-3, 17-24 (p. 1072)

Evening Message

“Crucified for Our Sake”

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

The First Candle ~ The Darkness of Betrayal

The Words of the Psalmist

Psalm 34:15-18

The Words in the Upper Room

Matthew 26:20-25

The Second Candle ~ The Darkness of Desertion

The Words of the Psalmist

Psalm 41:7-9

The Words on the Way to the Garden

Matthew 26:31-35

The Third Candle ~ The Darkness of Loneliness

The Words of the Psalmist

Psalm 31:9-14

The Words in the Garden

Matthew 26:36-46

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Hymn

#186, “The Old Rugged Cross”

The Fourth Candle ~ The Darkness of Accusation		
The Words of Trial		Mark 14:53, 57-64; 15:1-5; Luke 23:7, 11
The Fifth Candle ~ The Darkness of Denial		
The Words of the Courtyard		Matthew 26:69-75
The Words of Remorse		Matthew 27:1-5
The Sixth Candle ~ The Darkness of Rejection		
The Words Before Pilate		Luke 23:13-24
Hymn		#178, "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"
<i>(Standing the Cross)</i>		
The Seventh Candle ~ The Darkness of Crucifixion and Burial		
The Words on the Cross		Luke 23:33-34, 39-43; John 19:26-30; Matthew 27:45-46; Luke 23:46-48
Special Music	Bruce Wooley	"Man on the Middle Cross"
<i>(Draping of the Cross)</i>		
The Words of the Burial		Luke 23:50-56
The Christ Candle ~ Exit of the Christ Candle		
<i>(The sound of thunder symbolizes the agony of Jesus' death and the earthquake)</i>		
The Lord's Prayer (<i>debts/debtors</i>)		
Song of the Suffering Servant		Isaiah 53:4-9
†Hymn		#181, verses 1-3, "Were You There?"
†Dismissal Blessing		<i>Please depart from the sanctuary tonight in silence.</i>
†Exit Offering		

OUR LOOSE OFFERINGS will support the ministries of the Arole’s and Back Bay Mission.

TONIGHT’S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Accompanist: Buffy Riley	Lay Reader: Linda Heer
Song Leader: Roger Zimmerman	Sound Tech: James Grime
Easy Worship: Jenna Stuckey	Live Stream Tech: Ryan Christman
Usher: Doug & Nancy Rupp	

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 53:1-5 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. ³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

John 19:1-3 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe ³ and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck him in the face.

John 19:17-24 Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ Here they crucified him, and with him two others-- one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹ The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written." ²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. ²⁴ "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, "They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing." So this is what the soldiers did.

EASTER SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN’S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- 6:30AM Life Planning prepares Easter Breakfast
- 7:00AM Sunrise Service in the Sanctuary
- 8:00AM Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall
- 8:45AM Easter Egg Hunt (JYF hosting) in the Chapel
- 9:15AM Sunday School/Faith Village
- 10:30AM Easter Worship in the Sanctuary

ST. JOHN’S CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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