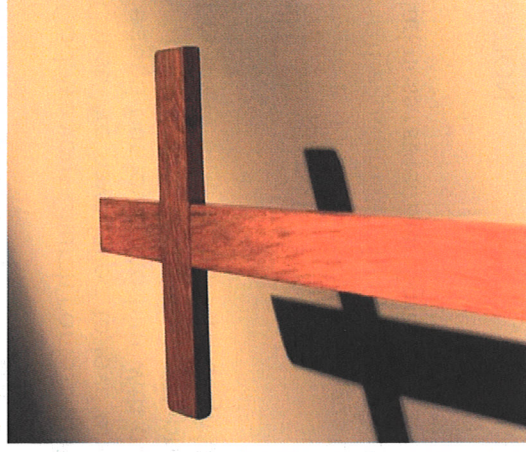


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, April 19th 11:00 a.m. Community Easter Egg Hunt followed by lunch with Asbury

Sunday, April 20th at 7:00 a.m. Easter Morning Celebration—Contemporary Sunrise Service and potluck breakfast

Sunday, April 20th at 10 a.m. Easter Morning Celebration—traditional worship



APRIL 20, 2025

A TENEBRAE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Rev. Mark Wills, Guest Pastor

WELCOME

Rev. Bowers

Please remember to turn off your cell phones. We ask that you enter and exit the Sanctuary in silence tonight. If you did not receive a candle when you entered the Sanctuary, please get one in the back of the church before the service begins. After the service is complete, you are welcome to stay and pray as long as you wish. May God stir your heart tonight as we reflect on the Passion of His Son.

Rev. Mark Wills

Member of Mt. Pleasant UMC and Dean of the Niswonger campus at Walter State Community College in Greeneville, TN. He brings a wealth of experience to leading academic and spiritual initiatives. Rev. Wills has a Masters degree from Vanderbilt University and a post graduate certificate in Community College Leadership from East Tennessee State University. Rev. Wills is committed to positive change and a more



GATHERING CHORUS:

In Our Darkness

Cindy Sams

In Our Darkness
There Is No Darkness.
With You, O Lord,
The Deepest Night
Is Clear As The Day.

CALL TO WORSHIP

John Reviere

And being found in human form, Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—**even death on a cross**. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit. Let us pray.

(Moment of Silence)

Most Compassionate God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. We have failed to love one another as he loves us. We have pledged our loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him. Forgive us we pray, and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sarah McMillan

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all. Jesus Christ is the light of the world. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and we loved darkness rather than light.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(Let us pray together)

Almighty Father, as we hear your word tonight, look with compassion on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross, yet who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

Marcia Parsons

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 52:13-53:12)

See, my servant will act wisely; he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. Just as there were many who were appalled at him –his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness—so will he sprinkle many nations and kings will shut their mouths because of him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand. Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 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. 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.

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

CONFESSION

Lin McGaw

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

The Word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

The Pastor will perform a reading of the story of Christ's Passion. As the Taize chant "Stay With Us" is played, please come to the front of the church and light your candle from the Center Christ Candle. Please come one row at a time. Begin by going to the outside isle and returning to your seat through the center isle. Your candle will remain lighted until the pastor holds up the Christ Candle and extinguishes it. You are asked to blow out your candle at this time.

DRAMATIC PASSION READING

Rev. Mark Wills

CHOURS: Stay with Us

Stay with us, O Lord, Jesus Christ

Night will soon fall

Then stay with us, O Lord, Jesus Christ

Light in our darkness

CHORUS: Jesus Remember Me

Jana Wills

Come one row at a time as the following chorus is sung and touch the cross as you stand or kneel in front of it for a brief meditation. Feel free to move to the altar or return to your seat after visiting the cross.

Jesus Remember Me, When You Come Into Your Kingdom.

Jesus Remember Me, When You Come Into Your Kingdom.

When the singing ends you are welcome to continue in prayer or you may silently leave. There will be no benediction or closing prayer. May God Bless you this Holy Night.