Service of Tenebrae
Good Friday Liturgy

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ’s life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life. In the ancient bidding prayer, we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died.

The people stand as the minister and choir enter in silence.

LITURGY
We remember this day the crucifixion of our Lord.
Our Lord Jesus, who for our sake was obedient unto death.

We focus upon the cross He carried in our place.
And the weight of sins which He bore for us.

Tonight we contemplate Jesus’ suffering and death;
that we might die to ourselves through Him and be raised to new life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

PSALM 51 (sung responsively) Hymn 51

Please be seated.

MEDITATION Pastor Wade Roof
THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

| The First Word | “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” | Scripture Reading: Luke 23:20-34 |
| Silence | Hymn: “Lamb of God” | Hymn 336 |

| The Second Word | “Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” | Scripture Reading: Luke 23:35-43 |
| Silence | Hymn: “Jesus, Remember Me” (sing through 4 times) | Hymn 616 |

| The Third Word | “Woman behold your son... behold your mother.” | Scripture Reading: John 19:23-27 |
| Silence | Anthem: “What Wondrous Love Is This” | Mark Patterson |

| The Fourth Word | “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” | Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:45-49 |
| Silence | Hymn: “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” | Hymn 351 |

| The Fifth Word | “I thirst.” | Scripture Reading: John 19:28-29 |
| Silence | Anthem: “Ah, Holy Jesus” | Shaw |

| The Sixth Word | “It is finished.” | Scripture Reading: John 19:30 |
| Silence | Anthem: “‘Tis Finish’d!” | Parker/Shaw |

| The Seventh Word | “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” | Scripture Reading: Luke 23:44-49 |
| Silence | Hymn: “Were You There” | Hymn 353 |

THE PRAYERS

*On Good Friday, the church’s ancient Bidding Prayer is sung or spoken.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

PERIOD OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION

THE PRAYER
Oh God, were it not for your love, our lives would be lived in darkness for all eternity. Were it not for your Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered and died on this day, our lives would be lost in a dark pit of sin and human selfishness. Help us never to forget the price of our redemption and the costly love you poured out for us on the cross. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

THE LOUD NOISE – symbolic of the tearing of the curtain in the temple.

Christ has died.
We await His resurrection.

The minister and worshipers leave in silence.