

Welcome!

Restrooms: main level (exit front left), lower level (at foot of entry stair/elevator)

Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness or shadows.

Toward the end of this service of worship,

we experience complete darkness as we remove the Christ Candle from the Sanctuary. We sense the gravity of Jesus' death as we join in a medieval Tenebrae ritual. With sustained drumming, we remember the earthquake recounted in Scripture. Then the Christ Candle comes back to us, shining even in the midst of grief and loss.

A light that shines in the darkness, a light that the darkness has never overtaken. ~ John 1: 5

We leave in silence as grieving disciples, trusting in the mystery of the resurrection. The Christ Light signifies hope as we anticipate the good news of Easter morning.

Entering Into Darkness

Gathering Music We gently settle into sacred time and space Words of Welcome **Procession of the Cross** A loud drumbeat accompanies the cross

*Opening Prayer (unison)

O God, under whose wings all your creatures find shelter, to you we cling in this night of grief. We gather to remember the betrayal, accusations, trial, suffering, and death of our beloved friend and savior. With those who followed Jesus during his lifetime, we face the costs of discipleship. Give us strength in this hour and hope for the promise of resurrection. In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

*Hymn (NCH #219)

"Journey to Gethsemane" verses 1-3

Betrayal And Arrest

Narration from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 22 Mary Binger & Pastor Clare Then Jesus went out and made his way as usual to the Mount of Olives; the disciples accompanied him...

Extinguishing a Candle

Interlude

Trial And Judgment

Scripture Reading | Luke 23:1-25

Then the whole assembly arose and led Jesus to Pilate. They began to accuse Jesus...

Jenny Schoolman

Pastor Amy Vigesaa

Pastor Clare Gromoll

Extinguishing a Candle

Hymn (NCH #218)

"Ah, Holy Jesus" verses 1-3

Darkness Descends

Scripture Reading | Luke 23:44-45 Cheri Schwartz It was now about noon, and darkness fell on the whole land until three in the afternoon, because of an eclipse of the sun ...

Extinguishing a Candle

Sung Response (NCH #192) "When Jesus Wept" cantor sings once, then all sing together

Eloi, Eloi, Lema Sabachthani

Scripture Reading | Mark 15:34

Beth Burns

At three, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"...

Sung Response

"Psalm 22" all sing refrain, liturgist reads verses



My God, why have you forsaken me? You are far from the cry of my distress. O my God, I call by day and you give no reply; I call by night and I find no peace. In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you set them free. When they cried to you, they escaped. In you they trusted and never in vain. *Refrain* Like water I am poured out, disjointed are all my bones. My heart has become like wax, it is melted within my breast. Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet, I can count every one of my bones. *Refrain*

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone; my strength, make haste to help me! Rescue my soul from the sword, my life from the grip of these dogs. Save my life from the jaws of these lions, my poor soul from the horns of the oxen. *Refrain*

I will tell of your name to my friends and praise you where they are assembled. You who fear the Lord, give God praise; all children of Jacob, give God glory! For you have never despised nor scorned the poverty of the poor. From them you have not hidden your face, but you heard the poor when they cried. *Refrain*

Extinguishing a Candle

Jesus Breathes His Last

Scripture Reading | Mark 15:37-39

Then Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two, from top to bottom ...

Extinguishing a Candle

Hymn (NCH #226)

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" verses 1 & 3

Message

Pastor Amy Vigesaa

Interlude

The Women By The Cross

Scripture Reading | Mark 15:40-41

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene; and Mary, the mother of James the younger and of Joses; and Salome...

Extinguishing a Candle

Choral Anthem "Let Us Gather in the Shadow of the Cross" by Brad Nix and Joseph M. Martin St. Croix United Church choir

Jesus Is Taken Off The Cross

Scripture Reading | Mark 15:42-45

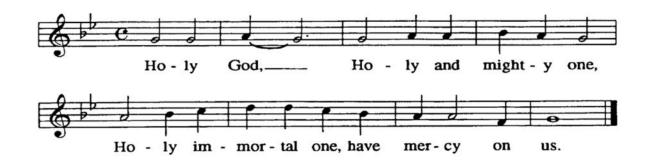
As it grew dark—it was Preparation Day, that is, the eve of the Sabbath a distinguished member of the Sanhedrin, Joseph from Arimathea, arrived ...

Extinguishing a Candle

Sung Response

"Holy God" cantor sings once, then all sing repeatedly

As we sing, cross bearers help move the cross over the whole congregation When the cross passes over you, reach up to touch it and pass it along



The Body Of Jesus Is Anointed

Scripture Reading | John 19:38b-40

So Joseph came and took away Jesus' body. Nicodemus came as well—the same one who had first come to Jesus by night ...

Extinguishing a Candle

Wrapping Jesus' Body in Spices and Oil

Three beloved ones attend to Jesus' body

Anointing with Oil

Anointing with oil is an ancient symbol of healing in the church. We need healing when the heart, body, or soul has been wounded through betrayal, loss, grief, or despair.

Please approach by the central aisle and return by a side aisle. Gesture to your forehead or hold out your hand.

Hymn (NCH #229)

"Were You There?" verses 1-2, 4 We sing during anointing

The Invitation to the Offering

Greeters pass offering plates We give by cash, check or electronically (scanning the QR code)

Please write checks to St. Croix United Church

(checks can no longer be written to our former St. Peter's and People's names)

All gifts given this evening (cash, check, electronic) will be split between the two churches



Offertory Anthem

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

arr. Richard Billingham Bethlehem Lutheran Church choir *Prayer (unison)

O Holy One, we bring to you this night who we are and what we can give: an abiding commitment to follow the way of Jesus, an undying hope to fully embrace your wonder and mystery, a growing confidence that your grace is sufficient for all our needs, an increase in our generosity toward all in your creation. Receive us and continue to guide us through the darkest of nights and days, by the light of your wondrous love. Amen.

*Hymn (NCH #223) "What Wondrous Love Is This?" verses 1-2

The Body Of Jesus Is Laid In A Tomb

Scripture Reading | Luke 23: 53-55

Having wrapped him in the linen shroud, they laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever been laid ...

Removal of the Christ Candle

All remaining lights go out

Earthquake

As the Christ Candle passes by you, lean forward to drum on the pew in front of you. Continue drumming. When it passes by you on its return, please stop drumming.

Extended Silence and Darkness Please remain seated for a full minute of silence

Departure

When lights are turned back on, we depart in complete silence

We invite you to join us Easter morning!

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

8am Easter Worship @ BLC 9:00am Easter Breakfast @ BLC 10:30am Easter Worship @ BLC

St. Croix United Church

6:45am Easter Sunrise @ People's Park 9:00am Easter Breakfast @ SCUC 9:30am Easter Egg Hunt @ SCUC 10am Easter Worship @ SCUC

Thank you to today's partners: Sharon Neuenfeldt (Worship Accompanist), Michael Bjork (SCUC Choir Director), Daniel Baumgartner (BLC Director of Worship & Music), SCUC & BLC Choirs, Bob Dickie & Cindy Parsons (greeters), Mary Binger, Jenny Schoolman, Cheri Schwartz, Beth Burns (liturgists), Mary Maren Bjork, Erin Wubben (women at the cross), Rolf Dittmann, Colin Goulette, Jim Pilquist (drama team), Fritz West & Becky Cummins (anointers), Paul Spilseth & Mary Binger (tech team), Jackie Savage (sanctuary organizer), Jenni Shaller (decorations)



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Journey to Gethsemane



James Montgomery, born of Moravian missionary parents, edited a newspaper in England. Risking imprisonment, he published articles advocating human rights, including the abolition of slavery. He wrote more than 400 hymns.

Tune: REDHEAD NO. 76 7.7.7.7.7. Richard Redhead, 1853

Ah, Holy Jesus

218Isa. 53:3-5; John 1:11; 18:15-17

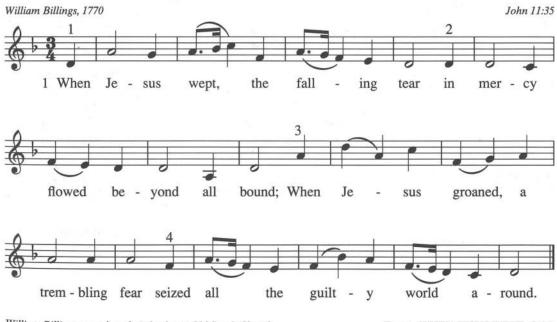
Johann Heermann, 1630 Paraphr. by Robert Bridges, 1899; alt.



Fécamp, this is one of many fine hymns by Johann Heermann. Though poor, Heermann's parents prepared him for the Lutheran pastorate. Much of his ministry took place during the Thirty Years' War.

Tune: HERZLIEBSTER JESU 11.11.11.5. Johann Crüger, 1640

When Jesus Wept



William Billings served as choir leader at Old South Church (Congregational) in Boston. A self-taught singing-school teacher and composer, he also worked as a tanner. "When Jesus Wept" is especially beautiful when sung as a canon, with groups entering as indicated by the numbers above.

Tune: WHEN JESUS WEPT L.M. William Billings, 1770 New England Psalm Singer

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Isa. 53; John 19:1-3

Medieval Latin, attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153) German paraphr. by Paul Gerhardt, 1656 Transl. James W. Alexander, 1830; alt.



Lutheran pastor and hymnwriter Paul Gerhardt.

Melody by Hans Leo Hassler, 1601 Harm. J. S. Bach, 1729 For another harmonization, see 179

Were You There?



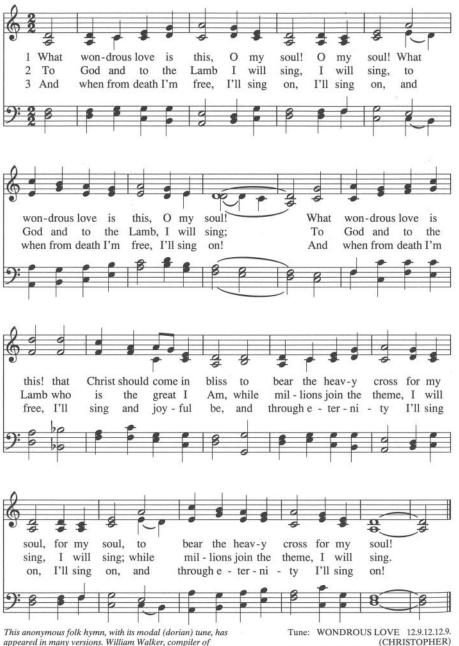
While many spirituals begin solemnly but end on a high pitch of praise, this is one of the true "sorrow songs" that W. E. B. DuBois spoke about in his book The Souls of Black Folk. Tune: WERE YOU THERE Irr. African-American spiritual Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

I-L- 10.17. D

What Wondrous Love Is This

John 19:17; Rev. 5:13

19th century, United States; alt. First published in Mercer's Cluster, 1836



appeared in many versions. Witham Walker, computer of Southern Harmony, one of the most important nineteenthcentury tune books in the United States, lived and died in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Appendix to Wm. Walker's Southern Harmony, c. 1843 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993