

# Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

## Good Friday Service of Tenebrae



Friday, March 29, 2024  
7:00 PM  
Sanctuary

**Prelude** Larghetto (from Organ Concerto in B-flat Major, Op. 6, No. 4) George Frederic Handel

**Welcome** Rev. Ginger Thomas

**Prayer for Good Friday**

**O Christ, who forsook no one but was forsaken by the closest of friends, and who committed no crime yet was sentenced to a criminal's death, we enter your presence in awe and adoration. On this day, centuries ago, you could have saved your life, but you refused to betray the purpose for which you had been born. You had come into the world to love God and neighbor as yourself, and when that love required you to shoulder a cross, you summoned the strength to bear it. Today, O Christ, as we sing and pray about the cross, teach us its meaning once again, and help us to take up our cross and follow you. Amen.**

**First Reading** *Jesus prays in the garden.* Luke 22:39-46 Wilberta Pickett  
**\*Hymn 220, vss. 1-3** *Go to Dark Gethsemane* Redhead 76

**Second Reading** *Jesus is betrayed and arrested.* Luke 22:47-53 Bill Boag  
**\*Hymn 216** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* St. Christopher

**Third Reading** *Peter denies Jesus.* Luke 22:54-62 Charlie Skinner  
**\*Hymn 218** *Ah, Holy Jesus* Herzbekster Jesu

**Fourth Reading** *Jesus is mocked and beaten.* Luke 22:63-71 Janet Ummer  
**Solo and Offering** *And the Multitude Arose (from Christus)* Felix Mendelssohn

*And the multitude arose, and together they began to accuse him: this man we have found perverting all the nation, and forbidding to render tribute to Caesar. He saith he is Jesus, our master, King of Israel, Christ, the Son of the Blessed!*  
Andrew Boag, tenor; Choir

**Fifth Reading** *Jesus before Pilate.* Luke 23:1-12 John Culbertson  
**Anthem** *Then Pilate Said to the Priests (from Christus)* Felix Mendelssohn

*Then Pilate said to the priests, the elders, and the people: in him I find no evil; the man is faultless. Then cried the people: he stirreth up the people, by teaching them in every place, near and far, throughout Judea, from here to Galilea.*  
Andrew Boag, tenor; Choir

**Sixth Reading** *Jesus is sentenced to death.* Luke 23:13-25 Bob Ball  
**Anthem** *Pilate Said Again (from Christus)* Felix Mendelssohn

*Pilate said again: I find in him no fault at all. I therefore will chastise the man, and let him go. They cried together: away with Jesus, and give Barabbas to us! Still Pilate spake again unto the people, for he was willing to release Jesus, but they still cried: crucify him!*  
Andrew Boag, tenor; Choir

**Seventh Reading** *Jesus is crucified.* Luke 23:26-43 Preston Breen  
**Anthem** *Then Unto Them Said Pilate (from Christus)* Felix Mendelssohn

*Then unto them said Pilate, take ye him and crucify him, for I cannot find a fault in him. The Jews answering said: we have a sacred law, guilty by that law let him suffer. He hath made himself the Son of God the Lord.*  
Andrew Boag, tenor; Choir

The asterisk (\*) in the bulletin invites you to rise in body or spirit.  
Words printed in **bold** are for the congregation to speak in unison.

**Eighth Reading**

*Jesus succumbs to death. Luke 23:44-46*

Rev. Rebecca DePoe

**Anthem**

*Then Unto Them He Delivered Him (from Christus)*

Felix Mendelssohn

*Then unto them he delivered him, that they might crucify him. They then took Jesus and straightway to Golgotha they led him. There followed after him a multitude of men, and women bewailing and lamenting for him. Daughters of Zion, weep not for me, weep for yourselves and your children. For surely the days are coming when they shall exclaim to the mountains: fall sown on us!...and to the hills: hide us!*

Andrew Boag, tenor; Choir

**Ninth Reading**

*Jesus is buried. Luke 23:47-56a*

Rev. Ginger Thomas

**Anthem**

*He Leaves His Heavenly Portals (from Christus)*

Felix Mendelssohn

*He leaves his heavenly portals, endures the grief of mortals, to raise our fallen race!  
O love beyond expressing, he gains for us a blessing. He saves us by redeeming grace.*

*When thou, O sun, art shrouded by night or tempest clouded, thy rays no longer dart.  
Though earth be dark and dreary, if, Jesus, thou art near me, 'tis cloudless day within my heart.*

**Extinguishing of the Last Candle**

**Earthquake**

*All may depart in silence.*

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Since the fourth century, Christians have observed a solemn service known as **Tenebrae** or **darkening**. After each scripture reading, a candle is extinguished, symbolic of the flight and denial of the disciples and friends of Jesus away from the crucifixion. In our service, you will also hear the pounding of nails, symbolizing the crucifixion. The extinguishing of the central **Christus** candle signifies the death of Jesus Christ. A harsh sound called the **strepitus** is symbolic of the earthquake at the death of Jesus, and the emptiness and confusion which exists in a life without Christ. The "strepitus" in this service is more elaborate in the form of an improvisation for timpani, suspended cymbals and organ.

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Rev. Ginger A. Thomas, Co-Senior Pastor (ginger@fcpc.us)  
Rev. Rebecca DePoe, Associate Pastor (rebecca@fcpc.us)  
Dr. David A. Billings, Director of Music Ministries and Organist (david@fcpc.us)  
Guy Russo, Chancel Choir Director (guy@fcpc.us)

**Musicians:**

Kelly Lynch, soprano  
Louise Van Mook, mezzo-soprano  
Andrew Boag, tenor  
Logan Newman, bass  
Chancel Choir  
Nick Druga, percussion  
Ellen Maria Willis, violin  
Juan Jaramillo, violin  
Stephen Weiss, viola  
Paula Tuttle, cello  
Andrew Kohn, bass  
David Billings, organ  
Guy Russo, conductor

**Readers:**

Wilberta Pickett  
Bill Boag  
Charlie Skinner  
Janet Ummer  
John Culbertson  
Bob Ball  
Preston Breen  
Rev. Rebecca DePoe  
Rev. Ginger Thomas



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**Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church**

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