

## HOLY WEEK: GOOD FRIDAY – A Service of Tenebrae

*A service of Tenebrae, or “Darkness,” is rooted in an ancient tradition of late-night prayer and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ. It marks the beginning of a prayer vigil lasting through Saturday. The readings are a special translation of John 18:1-19:42.*

### \*GREETING

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.**

Yet the darkness did not overcome it.

**We gather now to watch, and to remember, and to wait.**

### \*HYMN

**“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” vs. 1-3, hymnal #241**

### PRAYER

Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross. As we follow him through these hours of darkness, keep our hearts close to his: that we may not turn away from what love required of him, and what love requires of us. We pray this in the name of the one who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

### INTRODUCTION TO THE TENEBRAE “THE SERVICE OF SHADOWS”

*From this moment, we enter the ancient rhythm of darkness and silence. Fifteen candles burn before you – marking each stop on the journey in the Passion of our Lord. Between each reading, one candle will be extinguished, and a verse of music will be offered as the light dims. When the candle symbolizing Christ himself is carried out, the sanctuary will be left in darkness. We will not restore the light tonight. The sanctuary remains bare and dark until Easter morning, when the story continues...*

Come now. Watch with him a little while.

### THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

#### 1. The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

*Solo: “Savior, Teach Us So to Rise” vs. 1, hymnal #576*

#### 2. Jesus Before the High Priest

**Hymn: “Ah, Holy Jesus” vs. 1, hymnal #235**

#### 3. Peter Denies Jesus

**Hymn: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” vs. 1, hymnal #221**

#### 4. The High Priest Questions Jesus

**Hymn: “What Wondrous Love Is This” vs. 1, hymnal #233**

#### 5. Peter Denies Jesus Again

*Solo: “Amazing Love” vs. 1*

#### 6. Jesus before Pilate

**Hymn: “Ah, Holy Jesus” vs. 2, hymnal #235**

#### 7. Pilate’s First Questioning of Jesus

*Solo: “You Are My King” (chorus)*

#### 8. The People Demand Barabbas

**Hymn: “Depth of Mercy” vs. 1**

#### 9. Pilate Scourges Jesus and Questions Him Again

**Hymn: “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” vs. 1, hymnal #245**

#### 10. Pilate Delivers Jesus to be Crucified

**Hymn: “Were You There?” vs. 1, hymnal #249**

#### 11. Jesus Crucified

**Hymn: “Were You There?” vs. 2, hymnal #249**

#### 12. The Soldiers Cast Lots

**Hymn: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” vs. 1, hymnal #248**

#### 13. Here Is Your Mother

**Hymn: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” vs. 2, hymnal #248**

#### 14. The Death of Jesus

*Solo: “Savior, Teach Us So to Rise” vs. 3, hymnal #576*

15. Jesus Side is Pierced

**Hymn: “Rock of Ages” vs. 1, hymnal #242**

16. The Burial of Jesus

**Hymn: “Were You There?” vs. 5, hymnal #249**

THE SONG OF THE SUFFERING SERVANT

Isaiah 53:4-9

SOLO

*“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” hymnal #93*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The cross has done its work. The tomb is sealed. The vigil has begun. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death – even death on a cross – keep you through this silence, sustain you through this waiting, and raise you to newness of life on the third day. **Amen.**

GOING FORTH

*All depart in silence as the vigil of prayer begins. Those wishing to linger may remain in the sanctuary to pray. The sanctuary will remain dark and bare. The story will continue on Sunday...*

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### **Holy Saturday Prayer**

Merciful and ever-living God, creator of heaven and earth. The crucified body of your Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy day. In this silence, we rest with him. We do not rush toward Sunday. We sit with the stone, the sealed door, the unanswered question. Grant that we may await with him the dawning of the third day, and rise, with all your people in every age, to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.



*We are glad you are with us as part of the St. Luke’s Family tonight!  
Please check out our website at [stlukesmethodistcctx.org](http://stlukesmethodistcctx.org)  
to register your attendance or see our activities, groups, staff,  
and other information, or use this QR code from your tablet or smartphone.*

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### **Easter Morning at St. Luke’s:**

Easter Sunday Infuse! Worship – 9 am – Moore Hall

Easter Sunday Brunch – 10 am – Parlor

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt – 10 am – Backyard or Upstairs *(based on weather)*

Easter Sunday Traditional Worship – 11 am – Sanctuary

Easter Worship at Viera Senior Living – 2 pm – (Viera “Living Room” offsite)



# **A Service of Tenebrae**

## **April 3, 2026 – Good Friday**

**St. Luke’s Methodist Church, Corpus Christi, TX**