



Fanwood Presbyterian Church – 74 South Martine Avenue, Fanwood NJ 07023
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A Service of Tenebrae for Good Friday

April 18, 2025

Fanwood Presbyterian Church

This service commemorates the suffering and death of Christ and is based on the ancient Tenebrae. Dating from the eighth century, the Tenebrae, meaning “shadows,” represent the darkness that fell over the earth as the Son of God was crucified.

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From the busy-ness of our lives
we have come here on a day that is different.

All: **In the midst of the world
which holds the promise of spring and new life,
we have come to share a story of betrayal and execution.**

One: Come and hear the tale, come and share the tragedy,
come and embrace the darkness.

* OPENING PRAYER

* HYMN 101 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

CALL TO CONFESSION & SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to You, our Lord and Savior, that we have betrayed and denied You, forgotten and doubted You. When our faith is tested, we wonder where You are. When we see injustice in the world, we often stand by and ignore the cries of others. We confess that again and again we deny You with our silence, when we fail to live out Your teachings and love our neighbor as ourselves.

Forgive us, O God. Help us to truly repent and remember Your sacrifice, Your love, and to know Your forgiveness. In the name of the One who lived, who was crucified, and who lives again, Jesus the Messiah, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM “A Lenten Prayer” by R. Powell

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST
from the Gospel of Matthew

LESSON I **Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane**
Matthew 26: 36-46
HYMN 97 | *Go to Dark Gethsemane* (vs. 1-3)

LESSON II **Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss**
Matthew 26: 47-56 |
HYMN 221 | *What Wondrous Love* (vs. 1-2)

LESSON III **Jesus appears before the Sanhedrin**
Matthew 26: 57-68 |
HYMN 98 | *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

LESSON IV **Peter denies Jesus**
Matthew 26: 69-75
ANTHEM | *A Lenten Love Song* by H. Kemp

LESSON V **Jesus goes before Pilate**
Matthew 27: 15-26
HYMN 93 | *Ah, Holy Jesus* (vs. 1-2)

LESSON VI **The soldiers mock Jesus**
Matthew 27: 27-44
HYMN 93 | *Ah, Holy Jesus* (vs. 3-4)

LESSON VII **The death of Jesus**
Matthew 27: 45-50
The Strepitus
meaning “great noise,” the Strepitus evokes the terror of Jesus’s death

LESSON VIII **Surely he was the Son of God**
Matthew 27: 51-54
ANTHEM | *Were You There?*

SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

* CLOSING AND DISMISSAL

*The congregation is invited to wait until the lights are brightened,
and then leave in contemplative silence.*