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Jason Curtis Rivera | AV Director and Musician
Kim Russo | Director of Westminster Preschool
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Jessica Miller | Co-Director of Children's Ministry
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REFERENCES

Cover image: from "Here Are Your Children: The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Mary Button, liturgical artist and pastor. MaryButton.com. Our music service is provided under the CCLI Copyright License 11039447, CCLI Streaming License 20099016 and CVLI Video License 504049131.



A Service of Tenebrae for Good Friday

April 3, 2026
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" (vs. 1 & 4)

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. 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, Jesus the Messiah, we pray. Amen.**

ANTHEM "A Broken Heart" by L. Mayernik

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 & 2)

LESSON II Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss
Matthew 26: 47-56
HYMN 85 | *What Wondrous Love* (vs. 1 & 2)

LESSON III Jesus appears before the Sanhedrin
Matthew 26: 57-68 |
HYMN 98 | *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (vs. 1 & 2)

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.*