



Monday in Holy Week
Prayers for the Evening and Tenebrae
April 6, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
York, PA

You will have the opportunity to light three candles and extinguish two during the service as a visible reminder that Christ overcomes the darkness through his Resurrection.

THE GATHERING

We gather "in darkness". The officiant begins the service by saying

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People His mercy endures forever.

The officiant continues by reading the following passage of scripture.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10-11*

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and made worthy to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

You are now invited to light the three candles. After the lighting of the candles, the following is said in unison

O GRACIOUS LIGHT *Phos hilaron*

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,

we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The officiant continues by saying

Let them draw back and be disgraced

People who take pleasure in my misfortune

Psalm 70 *is now said in unison.*

- 1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O LORD, make haste to help me.

- 2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.

- 3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.

- 4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the LORD!"

- 5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.

- 6 You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O LORD, do not tarry.

A Reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah the Prophet. [1:1-14]

Aleph. How solitary lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow has she become, she that was great among the nations! She that was queen among the cities has now become a vassal.

Beth. She weeps bitterly in the night, tears run down her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all become her enemies.

Gimel. Judah has gone into the misery of exile and of hard servitude; she dwells now among the nations, but finds no resting place; all her pursuers overtook her in the midst of her anguish.

Daleth. The roads to Zion mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan and sigh; her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

He. Her adversaries have become her masters, her enemies prosper; because the Lord has punished her for the multitude of her rebellions; her children are gone, driven away as captives by the enemy.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God!

One candle is extinguished

Responsory 1 *In monte Oliveti*

Officiant On the mount of Olives Jesus prayed to the Father: Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation.

People The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Psalm 150 *is now said in unison*

1 Praise God in his holy temple; * praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; * praise him for his excellent greatness.

- 3 Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn; * praise him with lyre and harp.
4 Praise him with timbrel and dance; * praise him with strings and pipe.
5 Praise him with resounding cymbals; * praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
6 Let everything that has breath * praise the Lord.

Officiant O Death, I will be your death;
People O Grave, I will be your destruction.

Officiant My flesh also shall rest in hope:
People You will not let your holy One see corruption.

One more candle is extinguished

Christus factus est *is now said in unison*

Christ for us became obedient unto death, even death on a cross; therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the Name which is above every name.

A brief silence is observed.

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross.

One candle is left burning to remind us of the presence of Christ in the darkness of this world. We "exit" by the light of this candle. The service will conclude without additional comment of words from the officiant.

The name Tenebrae (the Latin word for “darkness” or “shadows”) has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services (Matins and Lauds) of the last three days of Holy Week, which in medieval times came to be celebrated on the preceding evenings. We are celebrating an adapted form this year to fit our needs.