



ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Be Inspired. Feel Included. Grow Your Faith.

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THE ORDER FOR TENEBRAE

APRIL 1, 2026 7:00 PM

THE REV. CARL H. BEASLEY IS THE OFFICIANT THIS EVENING.

What is a Tenebrae Service?

The word "tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness" or "shadows." Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Holy Week service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial.

This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus' death and of hopelessness in the world without God. The service concludes with the final candle hidden, symbolizing the death of Jesus. A loud noise may also sound symbolizing the closing of Jesus' tomb. The hidden candle is then revealed. The worshipers then leave in

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit**

Officiant Let us pray: O Jesus! tonight, thou Shepherd of the poor, thou sinless person thou did suffer full sore by ban of the wicked, and wast crucified, save us from evil. Save us from harm. Save our bodies. Sanctify us tonight. O Jesus! tonight do not leave us. Endow us with strength, thou Herdsman of might. Guide us aright. Guide us in thy strength, O Jesus! In thy strength preserve us. **Amen.**

Officiant Our Lord said: "The light is with you for a little longer, so that the darkness may not overtake you."

People **Let us therefore walk in the light, that we may be called the children of light.**

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray. Eternal Light, shine in our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us; that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, we may seek Thy face and be brought by thine infinite mercy to thy holy presence. **Amen.**

All **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.**

Officiant Let us bend the knee of our hearts and confess our sins before our Lord.

All **O blessed King of kings, we stand before your throne with broken hearts and spirits, with blemished souls and shattered honor. We have sinned, O merciful one, we have sinned against you. By thoughts, by words, by deeds we've done; by thoughts, by words, by deeds undone, we've failed to hold your commandments dearer than our desires. We have rebelled, our Lord, and deserve your swift justice. Yet before your throne do we confess our faults. We repent, O Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive us. Allow us once again to enter your service and to amend those things we have done wrong, to repent of our sins through your atoning death and with the help of your grace; for your honor and for the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Officiant As a called and ordained minister in Christ's Church and on his authority, I declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, through his atoning death and glorious resurrection; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

READINGS AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS

1st Reading: Shadow of Betrayal (Matthew 26:20-25)

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

2nd Reading: The Betrayer Revealed (*John 13:26b-30*)

Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “Do quickly what you are going to do.” Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the festival”; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

3rd Reading: Shadow of Desertion (*Matthew 26:31-35*)

Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.” Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

4th Reading: Shadow of Pride (*Luke 22:24-27*)

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

5th Reading: Agony of the Soul (*Luke 22:39-44*)

He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.” Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.” Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

6th Reading: Unshared Vigil (*Mark 14:32-41*)

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.” And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.” He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

7th Reading: “Father, the hour is come” (*John 17:1-6*)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

8th Reading: “That they may be one” (*John 17:15-22*)

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,

9th Reading: Arrest in the Garden (*John 18:1-5*)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus replied, “I am he.” Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.

10th Reading: Shadow of the Kiss (*Luke 22:47-48*)

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, “Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?”

11th Reading: Shadow of the Cross (*Mark 15:16-20*)

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

12th Reading: The Word was God (*John 1:1-5*)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

13th Reading: The Ultimate Victory (*Rev. 5:6-14*)

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a

harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals,
for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made
them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on
earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,“

To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

All God of strangeness and desire, we bless you for enticing us to the last place we wanted to be, the place where we can hide no longer, where we must face our own emptiness and see our false gods fall. We bless you for the immeasurable relief of self-exposure, for the miracle of survival, and for coming to us in unexpected guises. Amen.

The people extinguish their candles as the final candle is hidden.

Officiant The day ends, darkness descends. Now, Lord, let troubles cease. Let your servants depart in peace. Labors are over, our task here is done. Now, Lord, your victory be won. Lord, when everything trembles give me a firm foundation. Faith founded on facts. Prayers founded on your Presence. Life founded on your Love. Peace founded on your Power. **Amen.**

There is a loud noise, then the candle reappears.

**Those wishing to participate in the burning of the palms may now
depart the church and go to the courtyard.**

THE LITANY FOR BURNING OF THE PALMS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Beloved in Christ, in their life these palms drew life from the earth and gave it back to our air and the animals they hosted and sheltered. In the worship of our community, they helped us offer festive joy. Now, as these palms are reduced to ashes for use as we continue our Lenten pilgrimage, we pray they will serve as sign of our mortality and God's power to save. May we recognize God's love at work in us throughout the holy season before us, replanting our lives in the sure and humble soil of God's truth and grace, so we may once again greet the Christian Passover with joy and gladness.

As the fire is kindled, those present may carefully add palms to keep it burning.

Officiant

Merciful God, you called us from the dust of the earth, and claimed us for Christ in the waters of Baptism. Look upon us as we burn these palms to create the ashes that will mark us as penitents next Lent.

Bless us through our Holy Week journey to the waters of new birth at Easter.

May our fasting be a hunger for justice; our alms, a way of making peace; our prayer, the song of humble and thankful hearts. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

2026 HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS

**MAUNDY THURSDAY — HOLY EUCHARIST AND WASHING OF THE FEET
WITH THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**
APRIL 2, 2026 — 7:00 PM**

OVERNIGHT VIGIL WITH THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN ST. LUKE’S CHAPEL

Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Matthew 26:40-41

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex and online for anyone that wishes to share an hour of prayer with Jesus on Maundy Thursday, April 2 from 8:00 pm to 12:00 noon on Good Friday, April 3.

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**GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY WITH THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS
AND THE MASS OF THE PRESANCTIFIED**
APRIL 3, 2026 — 12:00 NOON**

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**GOOD FRIDAY — STATIONS OF THE CROSS
APRIL 3, 2026— 7:00 PM**

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THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL WITH THE LIGHTING OF THE NEW FIRE
SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 — 7:00 PM**

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**EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 5, 2026
8:00AM HOLY EUCHARIST
10:30AM FESTIVE CHORAL HOLY EUCHARIST****
*After the 10:30 AM service, there is a festive Easter Egg Hunt for Children
Followed by a reception in Becky’s Courtyard and Jensen Terrace*

***Indicates service will also be livestreamed*