GOOD FRIDAY
Tenebrae
Service of Light and Darkness

APRIL 10, 2020
7:00 PM
LIVESTREAM

East Liberty Presbyterian Church
116 South Highland Ave · Pittsburgh, PA 15206
www.ELPC.church
412.441.3800 · www.ELPC.church
GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE
APRIL 10, 2020 — 7 PM LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP

Prelude

“Were You There?”

Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Craig Phillips

Call to Worship (from Hebrews 10)

Leader: Let us approach [God] with a true heart and full assurance of faith. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for the One who has promised is faithful.

People: It is before this One we gather — before this God, made known as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer that we come together to worship, remember, and offer our praise.

Leader: Let us begin with a word of prayer. Let us pray together:

Prayer of the Day (in unison)

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush

Almighty God, look with mercy on your family who are gathered this evening, your children for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to suffer death on the cross, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. O Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Opening Hymn #223 (vs. 1, 3, 4) “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Hamburg

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down; did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts, and still you love us. We have denied you and denied our calling to serve one another. We have betrayed you, and betrayed your commandment to love one another. Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us. Teach us to love and serve you faithfully, even as we love and serve one another by the example you have set for us. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

Silent Prayers of Confession

*Indicates where to please rise in spirit.
ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS
Leader: Do not despair! Jesus Christ, the son of God, understands our human experience and sympathizes with our weakness. He is our redeemer, our Savior, our hope this day and always. Trust and believe that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

REFLECTION ON MOVEMENT FROM MAUNDY THURSDAY TO GOOD FRIDAY

ORGAN MEDITATION “Herzlich tut mich verlangen, BWV 727” Johann Sebastian Bach

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

GOSPEL LESSON John 19:16-30 The Rev. Dr. Bush

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.” This was to fulfill what the scripture says, “They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.” And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Take My Mother Home” David Jennings-Smith, soloist

I think I heard him say when he was struggling up the hill, I think I heard him say, take my mother home.
Then I'll die easy, take my mother home. I'll die so easy, take my mother home.
I think I heard him say, when they was raffling off his clothes, I think I heard him say, take my mother home.
I think I heard him cry when they was nailing in the nails, I think I heard him cry, take my mother home.
I'll die this death on Calvary, ain't gonna die no more, I'll die on Calvary, ain't gonna die no more.
Ain’t gonna die no more.
I think I heard him say, when he was giving up the ghost. I think I heard him say, please, take my mother home.
Please, take my mother home.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #228

“Were You There?”

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
O! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Michael Warren, soloist
Adrianna Cleveland, soloist
Todd Farwell, soloist
Mary Randolph, soloist
David Jennings-Smith, soloist

GOSPEL LESSON

The Rev. Dr. Bush

Luke 23:50-56

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

The Rev. Dr. Bush

HYMN #294

“Within Our Darkest Night”

DANS NOS OBSCURITÉS

Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies away, never dies away.

Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies away, never dies away.

CLOSING PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Bush
Please join us by *Livestream* and *Zoom* for our *Holy Week services*:

**GOOD FRIDAY April 10**

7:45 pm • Pastor Mary Lynn  
*Good Friday Conversation*  
Watch Online • zoom.us/join  
meeting ID 954 354 780

**EASTER SUNDAY April 12**

8:45 am • Pastor Patrice  
*an early Easter message*  
Live-Stream • YouTube and Facebook  
Watch Online • zoom.us/join  
meeting ID 758 273 383

11 am • Pastor Randy  
*preaching the sermon “An Easter Mystery”*  
Live-Stream • YouTube and Facebook

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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (vs. 1, 3 and 4)

1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the
Prince of glory died, my richest gain I
count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and
love flow mingled down; did e’er such love and
sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a
present far too small; love so amazing,
so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts’s desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.
WERE YOU THERE?

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus’ crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great “Oh!” at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

TEXT: African American spiritual
Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen
CCLI #689547
there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)
there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)
there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Opt. 6 Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on:

Facebook
www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian

YouTube
http://tiny.cc/elpc-youtube

and archived at www.ELPC.church