

**SERVICE OF TENEBRAE**

**March 21, 2008**

**7:30p**

**PRELUDE**

"O Man, Lament Your Great Sin"

J.S. Bach

**CHIMES**

**SILENT PROCESSIONAL**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God.

**All: Who redeems us from sin and death.**

One: For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord.**

**\*HYMN**

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

No. 97

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

One: Merciful God, we confess that so often our discipleship has been weak and we have failed to serve as Jesus served;

**All: Forgive us.**

One: We confess that we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us;

**All: Forgive us.**

One: We have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus, but we have ignored the poor, neglected justice, and have not been a people of peace.

**All: Forgive us.** [Moment for silent prayer]

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Jesus said: "I came not to judge the world, but to save the world," and "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end."  
The good news therefore is this:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

John 19:28-37

NT Page 114

**MEDITATION**

"It is Finished"

Rev. Dr. Donald R. Ewing



The Shadow of Crucifixion

Reading

Anthem

"What Have We Done?"  
Chancel Choir, Leslie Scheuer, solo

arr. Hopson

What have we done? We crucified the Lord of Life. Lord, we share the shame; our guilt brought this upon Thee. Hear our prayer, Lord, have mercy. What have we done?

The Christ Candle is Removed

Anthem

"Were You There?"  
Jeannie Schott, flute

spiritual

Tolling of the Bell

The Tumult

Silence

**PRAYER**

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

The congregation is asked to leave quietly

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE, meaning "darkness" or "shadows," has been practiced by the church since medieval times. Once a service for the monastic community, Tenebrae later became an important part of the worship of the common folk during Holy Week. We join Christians of many generations throughout the world in using the liturgy of Tenebrae. Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's suffering. Readings trace the story of Christ's passion, music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness suggests the drama of this momentous event. As lights are extinguished, we ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death; we remember the cataclysmic nature of his sacrifice as we hear the overwhelming sound of the "strepitus."

WE WISH TO THANK the members of the Chancel Choir, Dorothea Fisher, Glen Wissner, Jeannie Schott, and Leslie Scheuer for the music in this service of the last hours of Jesus on earth.

WE ALSO WISH TO THANK the youth who participated in tonight's service:

LIGHTS: Bryan Caswell

TOLLING OF THE BELL: Aaron Reckless

ACOLYTE: Allison Reckless

EASTER SATURDAY, MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup>. Rehearsals in the sanctuary: 8:30a brass ensemble;  
9:30a Chancel Choir, Northmont Belles and percussion

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>. 8:30a and 11:00a Festival services with Chancel Choir,  
Northmont Belles, brass ensemble, and percussion. Kids of the Kingdom and  
Kuyimba Choirs will sing at 11:00a. Breakfast in Polley Fellowship Hall at 9:30a  
hosted by troop 335. Games will be provided by Christian Education for younger  
children and the Easter egg hunt will occur. No Sunday School classes will be held.

JESUS COMES TO JERUSALEM is a reader's theater presentation of the Lenten and  
Holy Week scriptures. Those participating are Rev. Donald Ewing, Mandi Richey,  
Matt Richey, Sean Kelly, Nadia Buzzelli, and Dave Sartori.

WORLD MISSION INITIATIVE CONFERENCE. Northmont member, your registration has  
been paid in full to participate in the World Mission Initiative Conference at  
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary on Friday, March 28 AND/OR Saturday, March 29  
(FULL TIME OR PART TIME). See the Mission bulletin board, lower level, for listing  
of speakers, worship topics and leaders. Brochures are available in the church  
office.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed the Monday after Easter.

