



Tenebrae



EMMANUEL CHURCH IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

Emmanuel Episcopal Church has been serving the urban community of greater Boston as a dynamic center for spiritual discovery and renewal since 1860. We explore Christian tradition and foster inquiry through the celebration of liturgy, music and the arts. We strive for justice and peace. Emmanuel Church welcomes all people without exception to our Eucharistic table. We honor individuals of every age, gender, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation and religious background, and we respect the dignity of every living being.

April 8, 2020

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Robert Greiner, Presider

The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz

Luke Abdow

Tom Barber

Joy Howard

Kevin Neel

Rebekah Rodrigues

Videographer: Bill Margraf

An Invitation to Holy Week

Please participate in the drama and pilgrimage of Holy Week through word, symbol, tradition and wonder. The principal theme of Holy Week is Jesus' passion: "no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). We are invited into the passion of Christ as we journey together in ancient ritual and story in the days ahead especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the passion, we are also invited to reflect on the suffering of the world's people, the face of Christ before us, now. Come, then, people of God, let us go with Jesus Christ and one another into a journey of transformation. Let us be open to being moved from aloofness and self-absorption to vulnerability and compassion as we walk with the One who walks with us all the time.

Tenebrae

"The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, while no one understands" (Is 57:1).

Tenebrae ("darkness" or "shadows") is the traditional Latin name for the monastic night office of the evening before or early morning of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Since the 7th century, its distinctive feature has been the gradual extinguishing of fourteen candles placed on a triangular candlestick in the front of the nave. The candlestick is known as the "hearse" (derived, like the funeral hearse, from Latin *herpex*, "harrow," because of the resemblance between their prongs for holding candles and the teeth of a farm harrow). This evening as the lights are extinguished, a single candle will remain burning, a symbol of Christ.

Within the praxis and custom evolving at Emmanuel Church, we are striving to remain faithful to the traditional rituals, while seeking new expressions of worship and spirituality. Here we offer an expansive language and contemporary use of liturgy, music and Scripture to be consistent with the underlying rubrics of our faith community. The psalm texts are taken from The Saint Helena Psalter.

The worship leaders enter in silence

Taizé Chant: *Cantor will sing through once and then the congregation joins in for several repetitions.*

Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and

pray, watch and pray.

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Reader: As we read Psalm 22 responsively, by whole verse, we hold in our hearts and minds all who are poor, despised, or dispossessed. We ask that they find mercy and justice.

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me,
and are so far from my cry
and from the words of my distress?

**O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;
by night as well, but I find no rest.**

Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

**Our forebears put their trust in you;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**

They cried out to you and were delivered;
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

**But as for me, I am a worm, and less than human,
scorned by all and despised by the people.**

All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

**“You trusted in God for deliverance;
let God rescue you, if God delights in you.”**

Yet you, O God, are the one who took me out of the womb
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.

**I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.**

Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

**Many young bulls encircle me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**

They open wide their jaws at me,
like a ravening and a roaring lion.

**I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth,
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

**Packs of dogs close me in,
and gangs of evildoers circle around me;
they pierce my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones.**

They stare and gloat over me;
they divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.

**Be not far away, O God;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.**

Save me from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog.

**Save me from the lion's mouth,
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.**

I will declare your Name to my people;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

**May all who fear you, O God, give praise;
may the offspring of Israel stand in awe,
and all of Jacob's line give glory.**

For you do not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty,
neither do you hide your face from them,
but when they cry to you, you hear them.

**My praise is of you in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship you.**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek you shall praise you:
"May your heart live for ever!"

**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to you,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before you.**

For yours is the royal power, O God;
you rule over the nations.

**To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before you.**

My soul shall live for you;
my descendants shall serve you;
they shall be known as yours for ever.

**They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that you have done.**

[The first two candles are extinguished]

Reader: As we read Psalm 69 responsively, by whole verse, we hold in our hearts all people whose lives are touched by fire, drought, flood, and other forms of devastation. We pray for God's healing grace to be with them, as they rebuild their lives.

Psalm 69

Save me, O God,
for the waters have risen up to my neck.

**I am sinking in deep mire,
and there is no firm ground for my feet.
I have come into deep waters,
and the torrent washes over me.**

I have grown weary with my crying;
my throat is inflamed;
my eyes have failed from looking for my God.

**Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head;
my lying foes who would destroy me are mighty.
Must I then give back what I never stole?**

O God, you know my foolishness,
and my faults are not hidden from you.

**Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, O God of hosts;
let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O God of Israel.**

Surely for your sake have I suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

**I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an outcast to my mother's children.**

Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

I put on sack-cloth also,
and became a byword among them.

**Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

But as for me, this is my prayer to you,
at the time you have set, O God.
“In your great mercy, O God,
answer me with your unfailing help.

**Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me
and out of the deep waters.**

Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,
neither let the deep swallow me up;
do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.

**Answer me, O God, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.”**

“Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

**Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor;
my adversaries are all in your sight.”

Reproach has broken my heart, and it cannot be healed;

I looked for sympathy, but there was none,
for comforters, but I could find no one.
They gave me gall to eat,
and when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink.

**Let the table before them be a trap
and their sacred feasts a snare.**

Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see,
and give them continual trembling in their loins.

**Pour out your indignation upon them,
and let the fierceness of your anger overtake them.**

Let their camp be desolate,
and let there be none to dwell in their tents.

**For they persecute the ones whom you have stricken
and add to the pain of those whom you have pierced.**

Lay to their charge guilt upon guilt,
and let them not receive your vindication.

**Let them be wiped out of the book of the living
and not be written among the righteous.**

As for me, I am afflicted and in pain;
your help, O God, will lift me up on high.

**I will praise your Name, O God, in song;
I will proclaim your greatness with thanksgiving.**

This will please you more than an offering of oxen,
more than bullocks with horns and hoofs.

**The afflicted shall see and be glad;
those who seek God, their heart shall live.**

For you, O God, listen to the needy,
and your prisoners you do not despise.

**Let the heavens and the earth praise you,
the seas and all that moves in them;**

For you will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah;
your people shall live there and have it in possession.

**The children of your servants will inherit it,
and those who love your Name will dwell therein.**

[The next two candles are extinguished]

Reader: As the Lamentation of Jeremiah the Prophet is read, we hold in our hearts all the children of the world of every creed and nation, and pray that they may live and come of age in a world of peace and security. We pray that they may know and share God's love.

A Reading from Lamentations of Jeremiah the Prophet 1:4-14

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'

Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a child.'

But the Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a child"; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, 'Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, 'Jeremiah, what do you see?' And I said, 'I see a branch of an almond tree.' Then the Lord said to me, 'You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it.' The word of the Lord came to me a second time, saying,

‘What do you see?’ And I said, ‘I see a boiling pot, tilted away from the north.’
Then the Lord said to me: Out of the north disaster shall break out on all the inhabitants of the land.

[The next two candles are extinguished]

Reader: As Psalm 51 is sung, we ask God’s kindness for ourselves, for our families, friends and neighbors. We pray for grace to feel and show mercy and kindness toward those with whom we struggle. We pray for all who are lonely, angry or disillusioned. We ask for hope.

Psalm 51:1-18

Anglican Chant setting by T. Tertius Noble, S38

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

10 Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

12 Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.

- 15 Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O God,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

[The next two candles are extinguished]

Reader: As Psalm 143 is read, we hold in our hearts all those in fear, all those touched by violence, and all those who struggle for a better life, that they may live in peace, security and prosperity.

Psalm 143

Reader: O God, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.

Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

For my enemy has sought my life,
has crushed me to the ground,
and has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.

My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.

I remember the time past;
I muse upon all your deeds;
I consider the works of your hands.

I spread out my hands to you;
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.

O God, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;
do not hide your face from me
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for I put my trust in you;
show me the road that I must walk,
for I lift up my soul to you.

Deliver me from my enemies, O God,
for I flee to you for refuge.

Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Revive me, O God, for your Name's sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

Of your goodness, destroy my enemies
and bring all my foes to naught,
for truly I am your servant.

[The next two candles are extinguished]

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark 14:3-9

While Jesus was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.

"Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

[The next two candles are extinguished]

Musical Offering Minuet (Trio) from Piano Sonata Hob. XVI: 12.
Luke Abdow, viola & Rebekah Rodrigues, clarinet

Joseph Haydn
arr. Elaine Fine

[The next two candles are extinguished – Only the one candle is left burning in the hearse]

A period of 3 minutes of silence and contemplation

Concluding Collect

Presider: Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Taizé chant: *Cantor will sing through once and then the congregation joins in for several repetitions.*

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.

As the worship leaders leave, one recites:

To Know the Dark

Wendell Berry

To go in the dark with a light is to know the light.
To know the dark, go dark. Go without sight,
and find that the dark, too, blooms and sings,
and is traveled by dark feet, and dark wings.

The congregation departs in silence

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Holy Week and Easter at Emmanuel Church

Join all these services by livestreaming at Emmanuel's website or Facebook page

(No services will be open to the public)

Thursday, April 9, 7:30pm: **Maundy Thursday Ecumenical Service** with Old West Church (United Methodist) and Church of the Covenant (Presbyterian and United Church of Christ) and common cathedral (ecumenical). This service will be pre-recorded by each church and compiled for a worship service you may stream online.

Friday, April 10, at noon: **Good Friday Liturgy** with the reading of the Passion, Psalms and hymns

Saturday, April 11: **Keeping the Easter Vigil at Home** - a directed Easter Vigil for you to do in your home shared by the Worship Commission (subscribe to our e-news on our website for more details)

Sunday, April 12, at 10am: **Feast of the Resurrection Holy Eucharist**

In addition to these offerings, the Diocese of Massachusetts is offering pre-recorded services for use by congregations which do not have resources to offer streaming worship, or as a complement for those who do. These pre-recorded videotaped services will be available the morning of each service at
www.diomass.org.

Maundy Thursday, April 9 - Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge; Br. James Koester, Superior, *preaching*
Good Friday, April 10 - Society of St. Margaret, Duxbury; Bishop Gayle Harris *preaching*
Easter Sunday, April 12 - Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston; Bishop Alan Gates *preaching*

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The Rev. Dr. Frederick Stecker, Priest Associate
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Emmanuel Music has been Ensemble-in-Residence in Emmanuel Church since 1970.

Craig Smith, Founder and Artistic Director (1947-2007)

Ryan Turner, Artistic Director

John Harbison, Principal Guest Conductor

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Central Reform Temple of Boston, a Progressive Jewish Congregation,
makes its home in Emmanuel Church.

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