

Waterloo North Mennonite Church

10:00 am, Good Friday, April 19, 2019

TENEBRAE -- A SERVICE OF DARKNESS

Quiet Meditation Before Worship

The Call to Worship

Isaiah 53:2-5

The Invocation and Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us pray. O God, this is a day filled with memory and hope.
Let us remember.

All: And so we remember that we are made of clay, molded in your image.

Leader: WE think about yesterday and sigh, and we are anxious about tomorrow.

All: May your presence fill the room and remove the guilt of yesterday and give us purpose for tomorrow. Remind us again that we are accepted.

Leader: Make our acceptance of ourselves and each other complete, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: HWB (blue) #241 "Tis midnight, and on Olive's brow"

THE SERVICE OF CANDLES

The First Light -- The Darkness of Betrayal

Scripture Reading

Matthew 26:20-25

Hymn: HWB (blue) #257 (verses 1 & 2)

"Were you there"

THE FIRST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Second Light -- The Darkness of Desertion

Leader: Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night."

All: Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.

Leader: Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, this very night before the cock crows you will deny me three times."

All: Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Instrumental music: Pietà, Signore by Alessandro Stradella

THE SECOND CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Third Light -- Agony of the Spirit

Instrumental music

THE THIRD CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Fourth Light -- The Darkness of Misunderstanding

Scripture Reading

Mark 14:3-6

Hymn: HWB (blue) #259 (verses 1 & 4) When I survey

THE FOURTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Fifth Light -- The Darkness of Broken Trust

Leader: His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure! Now we know that you know all things, and need none to question you; by this we believe that you came from God." Jesus answered, "Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, all to their home, and will leave me alone."

All: Lord, when have we left you alone?

Leader: "I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world, you have tribulation. but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world."

All: Lord, when have we left you alone?

Hymn: HWB (blue) #247 "Jesus, remember me" (2 times)

THE FIFTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Sixth Light -- The Darkness of Disunity

A Litany for Unity

Leader: Lord, we are all your servants here, all striving to be united in Christ, yet unable to unite with each other. We are able to read and speak the words of Paul:

All: "Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives, by the peace that binds you together. There is one body and one spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism. There is one God and Father of all people, who is the Lord of all, works through all and is in all."

Leader: But the meaning of the words is lost in our disputes over our differences. We have spent many years pointing out how each group differs from the other. Let us now give equal time to our similarities.

All: We follow Christ that we might find you God. He is the path you set for us to walk, but we cannot tread that path alone.

Leader: We need guidance from you and from each other.

All: We follow the same path, the same teacher, the same God. Help us to respect our differences and work toward the oneness that we have in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Leader: But Lord, we are not there yet.

THE SIXTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

The Seventh Light -- The Darkness of Light

Scripture Reading

John 3:19

Hymn: HWB (blue) #257 (verses 3 & 4)

"Were you there"

Leader: Let us read the following silently together.

Put out the light Lord, it is too bright. I don't like the light; I feel more secure in the dark. The light reveals my every flaw, my every blemish. I must put on makeup to cover the imperfections in my skin. I must hide behind the veneer of things; I must not show my true emotions or speak without thinking; I must not touch or feel or show I care. Lord, I am afraid to say I love you. I want your warm arms about me in the night, Lord, but please put out the light.

THE SEVENTH CANDLE EXTINGUISHED

The Eighth Candle -- The Darkness of the Cross

Scripture Reading

Luke 23:26-28

Silence

THE EIGHTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

Hymn: HWB (blue) #250

"Beneath the cross of Jesus"

THE CROSS

Hymn: HWB (blue) #247

"Jesus, remember me" (3 times)

Scripture Reading

Psalm 22:1

THE CHRIST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

*** Please leave in silence ***