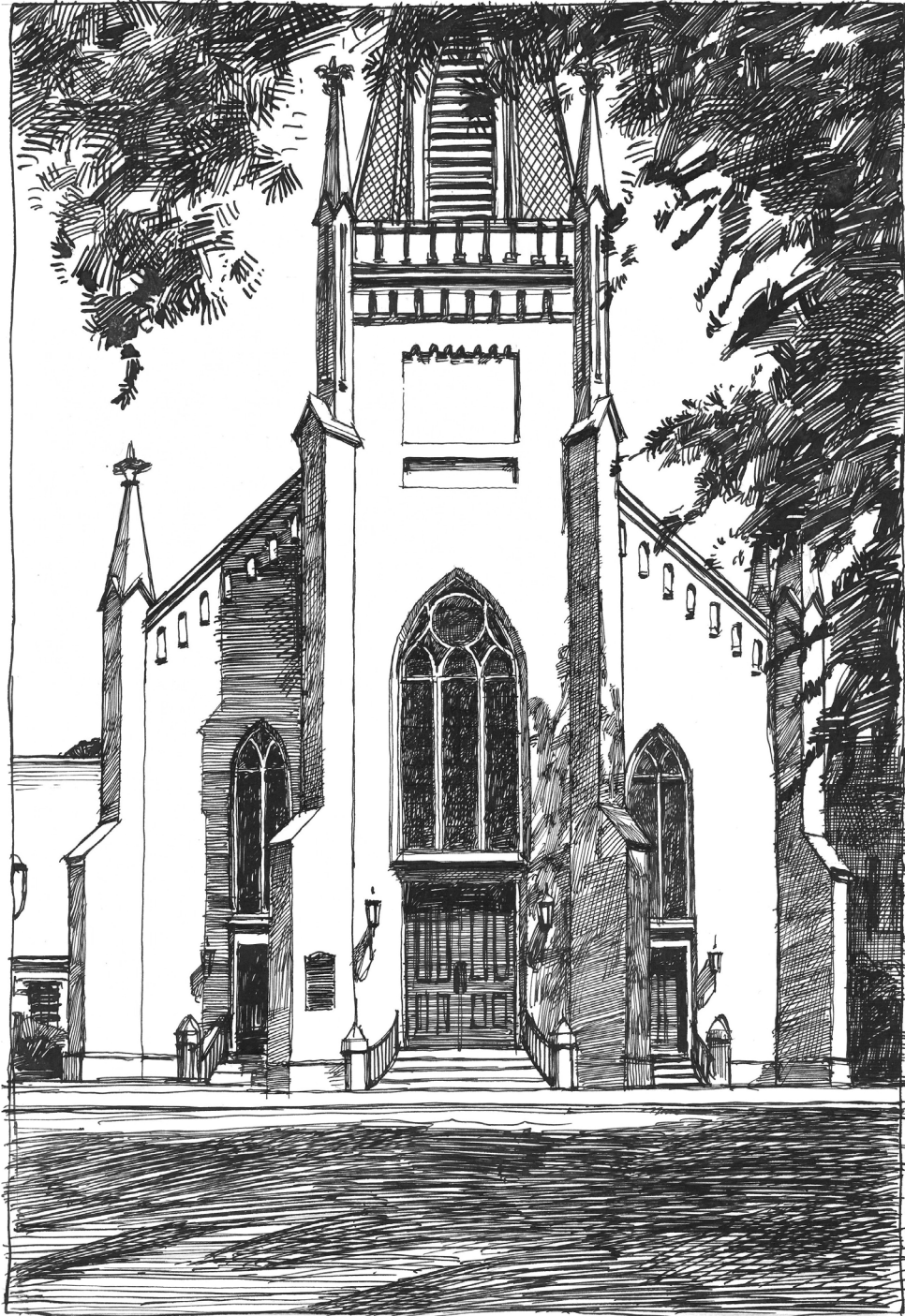


*Maundy Thursday*  
**SERVICE OF TENEBRAE**

7:30 PM WORSHIP | MARCH 28, 2024



First Presbyterian  
Church of Charlotte

# Order of Worship

Please enter humbly, worship deeply, and leave quietly this evening with your heart centered on Christ. You will observe a diminishment of light through the service in the pattern of Tenebrae worship. Tenebrae means shadows, and our worship will include an experience of some of the shadows that Christ endured.

**Music in Preparation for Worship** | “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” | Johannes Brahms

**Call to Worship** | Pen Peery

**\*Processional Hymn No. 206** | “This Is the Night” | MY NEIGHBOR

*Please stand as the choir passes your pew.*

**Prayer of Confession** | Mary Bowman

**Merciful God, tonight we come to you to confess our faults. Our spirits thirst for nourishment and meaning in life. We forget all that you have done for us. We fail at being servant-like for one another, humbling ourselves as Christ humbled himself. When tested, we too often deny, betray, and abandon you. And yet, you come to us to offer a second chance. Forgive our failures, our self-doubts, and open us to the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet** | John 13:1-14 | Chuck Williamson

**Hymn** | “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant” | THE SERVANT SONG

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey; we’re together on the road.**

**We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.**

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.**

**The New Commandment** | John 13:16-17, 31-35 | Anna Dickson

**Anthem** | Maurice Duruflé

*English: Where there is charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us revere and love the living God, and from a sincere heart let us love one another.*

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table** | Robert Galloway

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

(Prayer continues)

## Words of Institution

### Music during Communion | T. Dudley-Smith | C. Haywood

*As in that upper room you left your seat and took a towel and chose a servant's part, so for today, Lord, wash again my feet, who in your mercy died to cleanse my heart. I bow before you, all my sin confessed, to hear again the words of love you said; and at your table as your honored guest, I take and eat the true and living bread. So in remembrance of your life laid down, I come to praise you for your grace divine; saved by your cross and subject to your crown, strengthened for service by this bread and wine.*

### Prayer after Communion and The Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## A Service of Tenebrae

### Jesus Is Arrested | John 18:1-5, 12-14 | Georgia Johnson

#### Anthem | arr. John Ferguson

*Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended, that mortal judgment has on you descended? By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted! Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? Alas, my treason, Jesus, has undone you. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you. Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered; the slave has sinned, and the son has suffered; for our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded. For me, kind Jesus, was your incarnation, your mortal sorrow, and your life's oblation, your death of anguish and your bitter passion, for my salvation. Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay you, I do adore you, and will ever praise you; think on your pity and your love unswerving, not my deserving.*

### Peter's Denial | John 18:18, 25-27 | Rod Hoover

#### Anthem | Alfred V. Fedak

*Here is what Peter wouldn't tell those around him: "I was with Jesus, the one being tried; Jesus, the one who has angered the rulers; Jesus, about whom so many have lied. I am among those who follow this Jesus; Jesus, who faces accusers alone; Jesus who says 'You will see clouds of glory;' Jesus, who speaks of a son on a throne. Yes, I know Jesus, whom Pilate will sentence; Jesus, whose death will be that of a slave; Jesus, rejected by temple and empire; Jesus, who goes to a cross and a grave." Tell the world 'round us what Peter would not tell: "Yes, I know Jesus, through conflict and cost." For it is yes to the joy that will follow; joy that finds Peter, not leaving him lost.*

### Jesus' Trial Before Pilate | John 18:33-40 | Vickie Groetzinger

#### Anthem | arr. Gilbert Martin

*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. 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. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did ever 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! Amen!*

### The Soldiers Mock Jesus | John 19:1-6 | Robbie Kirk

#### Anthem | Craig Courtney

*Our cup was filled with darkness. Our cup was filled with death. Christ took our cup and drank it, and gave us life, and gave us hope, gave us himself. My father, let this cup pass from me; yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, O Lord, but thine be done. In blackest night we hear him in dark Gethsemane. Pleading with the father for one more way, for one more hope, for one more day. Then they took our Savior and led him to a tree; and there they broke his body, poured out his life, put him to death, to rise again! My father, let this cup pass from me. Yet not my will, O Lord, yet not my will, O Lord, they will be done.*

**The Crucifixion of Jesus** | John 19:13-22, 23-25 | Mary Ward

**Anthem** | arr. T. Tertius Noble

*Go to dark Gethsemane, ye that feel the tempter's power; your redeemer's conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour. Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray. Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned. O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame, and loss; learn of him to bear the cross. Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete; "It is finished!" hear him cry. Learn of Jesus Christ to die; learn of Jesus Christ to die. Amen.*

**The Death and Burial of Jesus** | John 19:28-30, 38-42 | Madeline Munn

**The Tomb Is Closed**

**Music** | "Were You There" | Anne Lafferty, Billy Manci, Loretta Giles, Scott Bryan, and Christina Pier, soloists

**Please depart in silence.**

After the final reading describing Jesus's body laid in the tomb, **you will hear a loud noise called the "strepitus"** which is Latin for "a great noise." This noise is meant to evoke the closing of Jesus's tomb with a great stone.