Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1308 Mt Holly Rd, Burlington NJ 08016

The Reverend Russell F. Haab, Pastor



GOOD FRIDAY – TENEBRAE

April 18, 2025 – 7:00 PM



SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

One of the ancient services of Holy Week was "Tenebrae", meaning shadows or darkness. Ours is a service of darkness. One by one the candles will be extinguished following the readings of the lessons which highlight the seven last words that Jesus spoke from the Cross.

The symbolism is evident. As Jesus' last words from the cross are spoken, the darkness increases until the death of our Lord, only one light is burning...the light of God's love. This light is carried out for a little while to symbolize the three days in the tomb. But like God's love, the light is never put out. It returns in anticipation of Easter Day.

*The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: We despised and rejected Him; He endured suffering and pain.

C: No one would even look at Him, we ignored Him as if He were nothing.

P: But He endured the suffering that should have been ours, the pain that we should have borne.

C: All the while He thought that His suffering was punishment sent by God.

P: But because of our sins He was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did.

C: We are healed by the punishment He suffered, made whole by the blows He received.

P: All of us were like sheep who were lost, each of us going our own way.

C: But the Lord made the punishment fall on Him, the punishment all of us deserved.

*The Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

The First Word Luke 23:20-38

The Prayer

The Hymn #345, JESUS I WILL PONDER NOW V.1-2

The Second Word Luke 23:39-43

The Prayer

The Hymn #345, JESUS I WILL PONDER NOW V.3-4

The Third Word John 19:17-27

The Prayer

The Hymn #351 O SACRED HEAD NOW WOUNDED V. 1

The Fourth Word Matthew 27:45-49

The Prayer

The Hymn #351 O SACRED HEAD NOW WOUNDED V. 2

The Fifth Word John 19:28-29

The Prayer

The Hymn #351 O SACRED HEAD NOW WOUNDED V. 3

The Sixth Word John 19:30

The Prayer

The Hymn #637 HOLY GOD, HOLY AND GLORIOUS V. 1-2

The Seventh Word Luke 23:44-49

The Prayer

The Hymn #637 HOLY GOD, HOLY AND GLORIOUS V. 3-5

The Homily Special Music

*The Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer

*The Hymn - #353 WERE YOU THERE?

There is no benediction. All leave in silence.

* Those who are able, please stand.

