

TONIGHT'S WORSHIP LEADERS

THE CHOIR

Michael J. Glasgow, Interim Director

SOPRANOS

Susan Curtin
Sheila DeBastiani
Amber Hitchcock
Sonia Jarrett
Sharon Johnson
Claudia LeBarron
Vicki Overton
Karen Owens

ALTOS

Carolyn Bishop
Alice Jones
Jolene Miedema
Sharon Nelson
Kathy Twiddy

TENORS

Dan Baer, Jr.
Mike Buckland
Mike Hast

BASSES

Shan Biggers
Julian Bridgers
Tom Ward

THE INSTRUMENTALISTS

FLUTE

Erin Denning

PIANO

Candace Bailey

VIOLIN

Anne Leyland

OBOE

Amanda LaBrecque

*Sue King & Susan Lohr,
rehearsal pianists*

CELLO

Nate Leyland

NARRATORS & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

NARRATORS

Linda Davenport
Mary Ellen Mauney
Helen McGee
Linda Tomlinson

SOUND

Mike Lamar

LIGHTING

Steve Betts



JOIN US ON EASTER SUNDAY!

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service (Columbarium Courtyard; White Chapel if rain)

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast (Carson Hall)

10:00 a.m. Churchwide Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Usual Sunday services are held at 9:15 (Common Thread nontraditional worship) and 11:00 (Sanctuary traditional worship). Visit www.stjamesraleigh.org or call the church office at 919-846-5796 for more information. The office reopens Tuesday, April 11 at 9 a.m.

The Seven Last Days



A SERVICE OF DARKNESS
by Joel Raney and Harry Parker

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 7, 2023

St. James United Methodist Church

The Seven Last Days: A Tenebrae Service

The History

The service of Tenebrae follows a tradition of the church dating back to the eighth century. From Latin, the word “tenebris” means “darkness” and commemorates the final days of our Lord’s life on earth, as He suffered death upon the cross. In the early church, the service of Tenebrae was celebrated on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Holy Week. The extinguishing of candles symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The gradual darkening of the church portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ as departing from it.

Gathering in Silence

Call to Worship

Leader: Tonight we gather in the Name of Jesus Christ,

People: who suffered and died for our sins, in the Name of Love,

Leader: the ultimate sacrifice of Our God, whose Son died for our salvation.

People: We are not worthy to receive this redemption, but we pray for guidance.

Leader: As we pray, let us remember that Christ was obedient even unto death.

People: Blessed be the Name of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Pastoral Prayer and Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone; we live in God’s world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, and to proclaim Jesus — crucified and risen — our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

After each musical offering, a candle will be extinguished and we will observe a few moments of silent reflection.

Prologue.....	Helen McGee
Open the Gates of Jerusalem	Choir
Second Reading.....	Mary Ellen Mauney
Blessed Are They	Choir
Third Reading	Linda Davenport
A House of Prayer	Choir
Fourth Reading.....	Linda Tomlinson
I Surrender All	Choir
Fifth Reading	Helen McGee
On the Night He Was Betrayed	Choir
Sixth Reading.....	Mary Ellen Mauney
Think of Me and Remember	Choir
Seventh Reading	Linda Davenport
Why Have You Forsaken Me?	Choir
Eighth Reading.....	Linda Tomlinson
Were You There?	Choir

Following the extinguishing of the Christ Candle, a bell will toll. You are invited to reflect, and then depart in silence when you are ready.