

Parma-South Presbyterian Church

GOOD FRIDAY — A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

April 3, 2026

7:00 PM



“Revealed through Nonviolence” — by Lauren Wright Pittman



Rev. Christin Moreland, **Senior Pastor**
Chris Venesile, **Music Director**
Laurie Archibald, **Organist/Pianist**
Chris Kurka, **AV Coordinator**
Thomas Molua, **AV Team Member**
Kyle Jackson, **AV Team Member**

Reminder: Please scan this QR code OR sign the attendance pad located in the pew Thank you!

**Indicates: Please stand in body or spirit, as you may.*

A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

A Service of Tenebrae, or "Shadows," is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ. This service is a continuation of Maundy Thursday's service that will last through Easter morning. Therefore, there will be no blessing or benediction. You are welcome to stay to pray as long as you wish, but please remain silent to respect the sacredness of this space as we leave in silence and "darkness."

Our readings this evening are accurate translations of John 18:1-19:42 by James H. Charlesworth. This translation is used to provide special sensitivity to Jews, Judaism, Jesus' Jewishness, and the Jewish origins of Christianity.

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God is light, in whom there is no darkness at all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world,

and we loved darkness rather than light.

Nº 216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God, put your laws in our hearts, write them on our minds, provoke us to love. Dare us to remember your love, so vast that it walked toward betrayal and into death for the sake of our salvation. Breathe your mercy into us even when the story causes us to tremble. Amen.

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

Reading 1

Reading 2

Reading 3

N° 227 "Jesus, Remember Me" (x4)

Reading 4

Reading 5

Reading 6

N° 227 "Jesus, Remember Me" (x4)

Reading 7

Reading 8

Reading 9

N° 227 "Jesus, Remember Me" (x4)

Reading 10

Reading 11

Reading 12

N° 228 "Were You There"

Reading 13

Reading 14

Reading 15

Strepitus

Reading 16

This service ends in silence. You are welcome to stay as long as you like, but please be mindful of those who are praying as you leave the sanctuary.

About the front cover art →→

Good Friday

the good news is... revealed through nonviolence

Read Luke 22:47-53; Luke 23:33-38, 44-46

Artist Statement | Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Creating this image³⁰ was overwhelming. I sought to capture Jesus' nonviolent response to relentless violence. As I considered each moment of his journey to the cross, I felt despondent. I know how hard it is to resist the reactive urge that courses through me even experiencing mild forms of violence. How much more difficult then for Jesus to endure such dehumanizing acts? Was he stripped so completely of his humanity that only divinity remained—and even that restrained from retribution?

Begin at the center with Judas's kiss—intimate, subversively violent. Follow the sword behind Judas³¹ to the top left: a disciple fiercely defends Jesus, while to his right, the high priest's slave screams after his ear is cut. Jesus reproves the violence and heals the servant.

Moving clockwise, a man—representing the chief priests and temple police—points an accusatory finger, wielding the authority to kill an innocent man. To his right, a man crafts Jesus' cross, quietly sustaining the violence of the status quo. Below him, an opportunist casts lots for Jesus' clothes, while a leader laughs at the impossibility that the Messiah will save himself. Finally, in the bottom left, a man offers Jesus sour wine in a moment of deep thirst—physical and spiritual.

At the heart of it all is Jesus, tearful, looking at us. His halo shines, revealing the many faces of violence around him. From the foundation of his steady posture grows an olive tree. Its branches extend beyond his clothing, reaching out to embrace those around him.

Through his nonviolent stance, the truth of a violent world is revealed. And in that truth, the good news of peace finds soil in which to take root, to grow, and to flourish.

Look

Allow your eyes to follow the olive tree as it weaves through the composition and touches each figure. What meaning do you glean from the olive tree?



Celebrate with us on Resurrection Sunday with worship at 10:00AM in person or virtually from our web site using the BOXCAST app on your Apple TV, Amazon Firestick, or Roku system and search for "Parma-South".