

First Congregational Church of Buckland

Church Phone: (413) 625-9440 Pastor's Phone (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Mrs. Sandy Carter, Organist

April 9, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.

Maundy Thursday

Service of Tenebrae

Everyone should mute their microphone for this service except for Pastor Rich, the 8 readers, and the soloists singing. Communion will be observed, so have your own grape juice and bread ready to partake together. You may light a candle for the beginning of the service if you wish.

PRELUDE - Sandy

OPENING SENTENCES - Rich

HYMN "The Old Rugged Cross" - Doug

PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Rich

Dear God, we gather this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks of a bitter and broken world. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us, in the breaking of the bread, of our need and Your sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to You in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. As the night advances, deepen in us the sense of Your steadfast love.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION - Rich

INTERCESSION - Rich

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not the Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation and uphold me with Thy loving spirit. Amen.

COMMUNION MEDITATION - Rich

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP - Rich

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - Rich

Everlasting God, who was and is, and is to come, we are grateful that You have invited us here as guests to a banquet, as witnesses to Your Holy Love. Inspire our living, praying, and words of devotion so that Your spirit may come alive in us once again. Let our worship this evening bring the stories and passion of scripture to new life and meaning for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE - This is the time of growing darkness, when candles should be extinguished, except for the 8 readers and Rich. Each reader will extinguish their candle, too, in turn after they have read their scripture. It will continue to grow darker as Jesus draws nearer to his death.

Reader 1 (Bruce) Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives - Luke 22: 39-46

Reader 2 (Pat) Jesus Is Arrested - Luke 22: 47-53

Hymn "Tis Midnight and on Olive's Brow" - Anita

Reader 3 (Anita) Peter Disowns Jesus - Luke 22: 54-62

Reader 4 (Jill) The Guards Mock Jesus - Luke 22: 63-71

Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - Cyndie

Reader 5 (Bunny) Jesus Comes Before Pilate and Herod - Luke 23: 1-12

Reader 6 (Janet) Jesus Is Sentenced to Death - Luke 23: 13-25

Hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" - Sandy

Reader 7 (Judy) Jesus Is Led Away to Be Crucified - Luke 23: 26-31

Reader 8 (Gail) Jesus Is Placed Between Two Criminals - Luke 23: 32-43

Hymn "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord" - Judy

JESUS DIES Luke 23: 44-46 - Rich

DARKNESS

SONG IN THE DISTANCE - Anita

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION - Rich

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Please leave the service in silence.