



# Nolensville First United Methodist Church

Our mission is to be a neighborhood church, where people experience a life-changing relationship with Jesus, in a welcoming church family.

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# GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE


*A SERVICE OF SHADOWS*

*April 3, 2026*

*Welcome to Good Friday: Tenebrae A Service of Shadows*

We are thankful you are worshiping this evening with us! We hope that our service will help to lead you to spiritual growth and affirmation of God's redeeming love for all people.

Please exit at the end of this worship this evening in silence until you are outside the doors.



*Good Friday*  
THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

*Welcome! When you enter a Nolensville First UMC worship service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur. All of our worship services are live-streamed and recorded on our YouTube channel.*

## Meditation for Tenebrae

*This is the day when life is raw,  
quivering, terrifying:*

*The day of numbed emotions,  
the day of blunt nails  
and splintered wood,  
of bruised flesh  
and red blood.*

*The day we loathe,  
when hopes are crushed.  
The day we long for,  
when pretenses fall away —*

*Because the worst that we can do  
cannot kill the love of God.*

*Gracious God,  
Your love is a light in our darkness,  
vulnerable, yet unquenchable.  
We would stand with Christ,*

*in the midst of the horrors  
of this world where  
betrayal and death  
constantly threaten  
Your love and peace.*

### *Order of Worship*

#### **Gathering**

#### **Greeting**

#### **Hymn**

*Ah, Holy Jesus* (vv. 1-3, 5)

**UMH 289**

#### **Prayer**

### *Lighting of the Candles of the Called*

#### **The Calling of Peter and Andrew**

#### **Hymn**

Lord of the Dance" (v. 1)

**UMH 261**

#### **The Calling of Matthew (Levi)**

#### **Hymn**

Lord of the Dance" (v. 2)

**UMH 261**

#### **Calling of Philip and Nathanael**

#### **Hymn**

Lord of the Dance" (v. 3)

**UMH 261**

*The Temptation in the Garden*

**Scripture**

*Matthew 26:31-44*

**Taizé Hymn**

*Stay With Me*

**TFWS 2198**

**Stay with me, remain here with me,  
Watch and pray, watch and pray.**

*The Passion of Jesus Christ*

**First Reading**

Judas and Others come to the Garden

***Extinguishing of First Candle***

**Hymn**

*Go to Dark Gethsemane (v. 1)*

**UMH 290**

**Second Reading**

Jesus brought before Annas

**Hymn**

*Go to Dark Gethsemane (v. 2)*

**UMH 290**

**Third Reading**

Simon Peter outside the Courtyard

***Extinguishing of Second Candle***

**Fourth Reading**

The High Priest questions Jesus

**Hymn**

*Go to Dark Gethsemane (v. 3)*

**UMH 290**

**Fifth Reading**

Simon Peter twice denies Jesus

***Extinguishing of Third Candle***

**Sixth Reading**

Jesus taken from Caiaphas to Pilate

***Extinguishing of Fourth Candle***

**Special Music**

*O Scared Head Now Wounded*

**Ensemble**

**Seventh Reading**

Pilate questions Jesus

***Extinguishing of Fifth Candle***

**Eighth Reading**

Pilate decides to free Jesus

***Extinguishing of Sixth Candle***

**Hymn**

*Were You There* (v. 1)

**UMH 288**

**Ninth Reading**

Pilate has Jesus scourged

***Extinguishing of Seventh Candle***

**Tenth Reading**

The Religious Authorities want Jesus crucified

***Extinguishing of Eighth Candle***

**Hymn**

*Were You There* (v. 2)

**UMH 288**

**Eleventh Reading**

Jesus goes to Golgotha

***Extinguishing of Ninth Candle***

**Twelfth Reading**

The Soldiers cast lots for his garments

***Extinguishing of Tenth Candle***

**Hymn**

*Were You There* (v. 3)

**UMH 288**

**Thirteenth Reading**

Jesus give his Mother to the Beloved Disciple

***Extinguishing of Eleventh Candle***

**Fourteenth Reading**

Jesus bows his head and gives up his Spirit

**Time of Reflection**

**Special Music**

*Watch the Lamb*

**Barbara Belden**

***Extinguishing of Twelfth Candle***

**Video**

*Sounds of the Cross*

**Fifteenth Reading**

Jesus taken down from the Cross

## ***Extinguishing of the Christ Candle***

**Silence**

**Special Music**

*What Wondrous Love is This*

**Ensemble**

**Sixteenth Reading**

Joseph and Nicodemus laid Jesus in the tomb

*It's Friday but Sunday's coming.*

*~ Rev. S.M. Lockridge*

**Going Forth**

Go now in the darkening night, O people of God. Though we walk in darkness, we are not forsaken. We are led by the hand of God. May the love of God calm your fears; may the grace of God keep you through the night; may the presence of God sustain you through life. Imagine if the story ended on Friday. Thanks be to God that Sunday is coming. Amen.

**Please leave the Sanctuary in silence.**

*Tonight's Tenebrae readings were taken from John 18:1 –19:42*



It's Friday.  
Jesus is hanging  
on the cross.

The disciples are  
questioning: what  
has happened to  
their King?

But it's only  
Friday.

And Sunday is  
coming.



APRIL 5  
6:30, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

**Please join us for Easter Sunday!**

- 6:30 am Sunrise @ The Pavilion
- 8:30 am Contemp. Worship
- 10:45 am Classic Worship

*Or online at [nolensvilleumc.org](http://nolensvilleumc.org),  
on Facebook, or YouTube.*

### Welcome Guests with Children!

There are children's bulletins at each entrance to the Sanctuary for them to use during worship.

Children are always welcome in our Sanctuary but we do have a nursery for infants through age 3 located on the second floor of the Education Wing. From the Sanctuary, exit by the door on the left side of altar area, turn right, and follow the "Nursery" signs.

### Our Staff



**Pastor Jeremy Squires**  
Lead Pastor  
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**Pastor Jeremy's Dedicated Office Hours**  
Wednesdays + Thursdays | 9 AM -1 PM

You're welcome to drop by, but we encourage you to call first to make sure the time is available. He is also available on other days, as needed!

To schedule a time, scan the QR code or call the church office.



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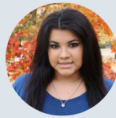
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