

Order of Worship

Prelude

Christe, aller Welt Trost (BWV 670)
"Christ, the comfort of the world"

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Introit

Ah, Holy Jesus [2013]

ISTE CONFESSOR, Rouen, Setting by William Roger Price
Text by Johann Heermann, 1630

Welcome

Rev. Will Burhans

Moment of Silence

The Call to Worship

Maggie Keeler

One: We are gathered tonight to recall the Last Supper that Jesus had with his friends and to remember the events that followed. Are you prepared to come to the table of the Lord?

One: Will you watch with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane?

All: By the grace of God, we will.

One: Will you follow Jesus, even on this night of his betrayal?

All: By the grace of God, we are ready. We will follow with our love and our prayers. God of grace and steadfast love, greatly is Your name to be praised.

Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

PH # 177

Call to Confession

Rev. Maeve Kieran Hammond

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Lord Jesus, we marvel at your passion and commitment to us. As we come to the table of your love and encounter the story of your passion again this night, we confess our desire for safety and security even if it comes at the expense of others' well-being. We confess our desire for affection and esteem even when it comes at the expense of truthfulness and integrity. We confess our desire for power and control even when it comes at the expense of our relationship with you. Forgive us O God and lead us through the valley of death to the fount of life, through Jesus Christ our Savior, amen.

Words of Assurance

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Anthem

When I Survey [2025]

Marianne Forman/Isaac Watts

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride

Beth Welty, *violin*; Johann Soultz, *cello*

The Service of Tenebrae

Jesus prays on Mount of Olives

Luke 22:39-46

Betsy Goodell

Betrayal/Arrest of Jesus

Luke 22:47-53

Rich Crawford

Choir

Dark Gethsemane

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Johann Crüger/arr. Lloyd Larson

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r; your Redeemer's conflict see, watch with Him one bitter hour. Turn not from His griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Peter Denies Jesus

Luke 22:54-62

Julia Daggett

Jesus before the Council

Luke 22:63-71

Andy McKinley

Choir

Dark Gethsemane (v. 2)

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned. O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame or loss; learn of Him to bear the cross.

Jesus before Pilate

Luke 23:1-5

Petra Sansom

Jesus before Herod

Luke 23:6-12

Carol Andrus

Choir

Dark Gethsemane (v. 3)

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at His feet, mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished," hear Him cry. Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Jesus Sentenced to Death

Luke 23:13-25

Branda Wilhoite

Jesus led to Golgotha

Luke 23: 26-33

Richard Carbone

Choir

Dark Gethsemane

"It is finished," hear Him cry. Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

The Crucifixion

Luke 23:34-43

Rev. Maeve K. Hammond

The Death

Luke 23:44-49

Rev. Will Burhans

The Christ Candle Extinguished

Silent Meditation

The Lord's Prayer

Re-lighting the Christ Candle and The Vigil Begins

Depart in silence

A note about the readings: Tonight's readings can be hard to hear, not only because they detail the suffering of Jesus, but also because they sound anti-Semitic, in that the death of Jesus is blamed, at least in part, on some of the religious leaders and "the crowd," most of whom were Jewish. It is important to state and remember that being Jewish is not what these readings condemn--Jesus himself and all of the disciples were Jews. What is *condemned* in these readings is the sin of closing our hearts to the Love of God, which is something we all do at times. Let us remember that our entire Bible—both Old and New Testaments—attests to the undying love of God for the people of Israel.

April 2, 2026

Maundy Thursday and Service of Tenebrae

Accessibility & Navigation

We have an inductive hearing loop for those whose hearing aids have Telecoil.

Listening devices are also available in the back.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, An Open and Affirming Congregation
21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180 www.fcc-winchester.org
We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community: growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

The Congregation, Ministers To The World
Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor
Rev. Maeve Kieran Hammond, Associate Pastor
Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Worship & The Arts
Mrs. Maggie Keeler, Minister of Children and Families
Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager
Mr. Ed Banzy, Building Manager
Mr. Dave Fay, Building Superintendent
Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

Introducing the Service

In order to enter most fully into the spirit and mood of this evening's service, that of meditation and personal reflection, we ask that silence be observed by all worshippers. Use the time prior to the service as a time to enter into the presence of the One who welcomes us as we move in spirit into that Upper Room.

The Service of Tenebrae is an adaptation of an early 4th Century observance of Holy Communion. "Tenebrae" in Latin means "shadows": as the candles are extinguished, symbolic of the flight of the disciples, shadows and darkness come upon us. The total darkness recalls the time Christ was in the tomb, and the relighting of the Christ-candle is prophecy of the Easter so soon to dawn.

As this service ends the Good Friday Vigil begins. You are welcome to stay for as long as you'd like this evening or come back to the sanctuary for prayer at any point between now and noon tomorrow. You are also welcome to join us for a brief Good Friday service tomorrow at 12pm in the front of the sanctuary.