



**ST. ANDREW'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:00 p.m.**

17 Church Street, Hanover, MA 02339  
(781) 826-2062 [www.standrewshanover.org](http://www.standrewshanover.org)

# Tenebrae – The Liturgy of Shadows

## The Introduction

*Celebrant:*

'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows. As we come to the end of Lent, we begin a journey into darkness to a place of deep shadows.

Today we accompany Jesus in his last hours. We witness the cruelties and the suffering he endures. We listen to the words of condemnation and ridicule. In all this he is innocent. He is the faithful servant of God, doing his Father's work; bringing the gospel of love, peace, and hope. And so, in this liturgy, we are invited to walk solemnly and attentively with Jesus. Better to know. Better to understand. Better to be his friend, his disciple, his witness. Be still and know that God is here.

**I**

**The First Reading** *Jesus eats the last supper with his disciples.*

**Matthew 26:17-29**

Read by Suzanne Bunszel

The disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, 'My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve. And while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so." While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup and, after giving thanks. He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The first candle is extinguished in silence. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**Creator in heaven, on the night before he died, your son shared the Passover meal with his friends, giving them bread to nourish their spirits and wine, poured out as his blood, for the forgiveness of their sins. We pray that we may turn to him for our strength, and for forgiveness. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## II

**The Second Reading** *Jesus is betrayed and arrested.*

**Matthew 26:36-56**

Read by Janet Keane

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.' While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The second candle is extinguished in silence. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**God in heaven, your son, Jesus, prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, seeking to understand what you were asking him to do. Help us to pray, to persevere in discovering the thing you call us to do with our lives. Give us the strength and courage to follow your calling whatever the cost, when we feel alone or betrayed, afraid, or helpless. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### III

**The Third Reading** *Jesus appears before Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor.*

**Mark 15:1-15**

Read by Rev'd Amy Whitcomb Slemmer

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'It is you who say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So, the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.

But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So, Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The third candle is extinguished. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**God, when we feel the whole world against us, accounting us of little worth, give us your Spirit that we may speak the truth and stay firm in our calling to be like Jesus, whatever the cost. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### IV

**The Fourth Reading**      *Jesus is crucified.*

**Mark 15:16-32**

Read by Suzanne Bunszel

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace, and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.

Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The fourth candle is extinguished. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**Creator, in heaven, we so often stand by, as others are mocked or belittled, as cruelty and injustice are allowed free reign, afraid to speak, afraid to act, silent and guilty. Give us strength to speak out, and to witness always to the right, and to the truth. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

V

**The Fifth Reading**

*Jesus dies on the cross.*

**Matthew 27:45-54**

Read by Janet Keane

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once, one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly, this man was God's Son!"

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The fifth candle is extinguished. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**Creator, in heaven, when we cannot find you, and are not sure that you are there, give us faith. Let us understand that you are always faithful, always present, holding us and sustaining us, even in the darkest moments when all seems hopeless and lost, and death surrounds us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## VI

### **The Sixth Reading Isaiah 52:13 – 53:5**

*He was despised and we took no account of him.*

Read by Dane Ripellino

See, my servant will prosper. He shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him, so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human, so will the crowds be astonished at him, and kings stand speechless before him. For they shall see something never told, and witness something never heard before. Who could believe what we have heard and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed? Like a sapling he grew up in front of us, like a root in arid ground. Without beauty, without majesty we saw him, no looks to attract our eyes; a thing despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering, a man to make people screen their faces. He was despised and we took no account of him.

And yet ours were the sufferings he bore, ours the sorrows he carried. But we, we thought of him as someone punished, struck by God and brought low. Yet he was pierced through for our faults, crushed for our sins. On him lies punishment that brings us peace, and through his wounds we are healed.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*The sixth candle is extinguished. Then the congregation stands and prays together.*

**Creator in heaven, today we look on Jesus your son, stripped and humiliated, scourged and crowned with thorns, mocked and spat upon, betrayed and led out to be nailed to a tree. Yet this man takes upon himself our sins, our faults, our failings, and gives us new life in his resurrection. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## VII

### **The Seventh Reading** *Jesus is laid in the tomb*

**Matthew 27:62–66**

Read by Rev'd Amy Whitcomb

Slemmer

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore, command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So, they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

Reader: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant:*

God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross.

*The seventh candle, representing Jesus Christ, Light of the world, is hidden as Jesus' body was hidden in the shadows of the tomb.*

**All depart in silence.**

*The darkened church will have the lights slightly raised as people exit. We leave in darkness because God's Light in the world—Christ Jesus has died.*

## OUR PRAYER AND SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### PRAYER LIST

Those in need: Carol and Chick Kastner - Edward "Ned" McCann - Sue Gagnon - Pattie Handloss - Mary Robinson - Aaron Thurston - Camdyn M - Matt - Tom F - Aiden - safe return of Nancy Guthrie and The Guthrie Family - Joyce - Eileen K - Patricia - Carol Ann - Link Family -- Stern Family -- Ben - Prescott and Mansfield families - Alec - Ann Ferzoco - Ellen Elliott -- Meredith C -- Greg Eaton - Nicol Family - John - Tracy Sprows - Dennis - Lee G - Don S - Pam E - Jan B - Leah - Katrina & Darren - Paul Nicol - Mark D - Art J - Matthew - Thomas & Gloria - Susannah L -- David - Paula - Bill - David H - Sharon M - Greyson - Rosie & Silva Family - Haley - Sarah - Valerie - Dennis -- Those who have died and their families and loved ones: Nancy Jacobson - Benjamin Tappa - Tiffany Gloria Malloy

*O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers, mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to these your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### BAPTISM

We are excited to have the next celebration of Baptisms on Sunday, May 24th, the Feast of Pentecost with baptism preparation on the preceding Sunday (May 17<sup>th</sup>), after church. This is a joyous occasion and is for anyone regardless of age, background or belief. If you or you have a loved one whom you wish to be baptized or you have any questions, please be in touch with Rev'd Amy.

## OUR YOUTH

### SHORE TO SHORE - HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP



Our Shore to Shore participants will be heading to the Barbara C Harris Camp and Conference Center on Friday, April 10th for a good dose of getting to know each other, grounding ourselves in the Anglican Communion and some of the liberatory practices and heroes who served in South Africa and in the US. Please keep the group in your prayers and see this space next week for some terrific social media and reflections from our participants.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Mother's Day, Sunday May 10th from 5-6:45pm at St. Andrew's.

Shore to Shore's online fundraiser, <https://givebutter.com/2bdiK2>:

To donate: Use this QR CODE  or Text "**Shore2Shore**" to 53-555

## **CHILDREN'S CHAPEL**

Children's Chapel meets every Sunday in the Parish Hall. Children of all ages are welcome, and parents are warmly invited to have some of their own sacred time in the sanctuary with other grown ups. Children will re-join you and the service during announcements.

Calling all animal lovers! The Sunday School will be doing a Puppy Party for our Lenten fundraiser. This will be both a fundraiser and adoption event for Greyhound Pets of America. We'd love it if the congregation can help.

WHEN - Sunday, April 12th - 11:30am - 1:00 pm at St. Andrews.

HOW CAN YOU HELP -

-Donations - we'd love donations of food or money to be put towards the food (we plan to sell hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and drinks with the profits going to Greyhound Pets of America - Massachusetts). Or we can accept donations that we can give directly to Greyhound Pets of America.

-Volunteers - we plan on having fun activities for the kids in addition to some yummy food. Please let us know if you'd like to help set up, man the grill, help with the dogs, entertain kids or help with cleanup. Any help is greatly appreciated!

-Advertise - do you know any families looking to adopt a dog? Or maybe folks who would love to spend some time with some great dogs? Or families who are looking for a free event for kids? Please let invite them! Or feel free to take a flyer (copies are located in the back of the church) to post in the community or share with friends.

QUESTIONS - please see anyone from the Sunday School crew or Courtney Hill (617-990-2164).

## **PARISH COMMUNITY**

### **BECOME A PLEDGING MEMBER**

Being faithful stewards of our resources is an on-going opportunity. If you are among those who have pledged already - THANK YOU! Your gift and promise contributes to the stability of St. Andrew's and allows us to plan ahead. If you have not yet made a commitment - it is not too late! Pledge packets are in the Narthex, and your thoughtful investment of your time, talent or financial resources are a blessing.

### **COMMUNITY BRIDGE**

Keith Macleod is chairing the brand new St. Andrew's Bridge Builders - a group of aspiring bridge players who will gather, learn the game and then enjoy lunch together in the Parish Hall. The first gathering will be on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 starting at 9:30 a.m. Sign up - beginners are welcome.

## **OUR OUTREACH EFFORTS**

### **HANOVER FOOD PANTRY**

St. Andrew's collects items for the Hanover Food Pantry Thank you so much for your consistent donations. For the month of April, we have been asked to collect shampoo and hair conditioner.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Holy Saturday – Duct Tape Committee**

4/4/26 – 9:30-11:30 a.m.

### **Easter Sunday**

4/5/26 – 9:30 am service

Easter egg hunt to take place following service

### **April 10–12, 2026**

Shore to Shore retreat at Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center

### **Sunday, April 12, 2026; 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Sunday School Greyhound Adoption Event & cookout

### **Sunday, April 19, 2026; 11:00 a.m.**

Vestry Meeting

### **Recurring events:**

**Sundays:** 9:30am service; Choir Practice 8:45 a.m.; Sunday School/Children’s Chapel; Coffee Hour following service

**REMEMBER TO BRING FLOWERS AND BELLS.** Together we will flower the Cross and amplify our “Alleluias” with joyful bell ringing on Easter Sunday.

**EASTER OFFERING** for St. Andrew’s: See envelopes in Narthex and in pews.

You are warmly invited to enter as fully as you are able into the sacred rituals of Easter.

Come as you are. Bring your whole self—your questions, your grief, your hope. There is space for all of it here.

May these days draw us closer to God and to one another, as we walk the way of the cross together, trusting that with the return of God’s Love and Light to the world, Love will have the final word.

# **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

*Centered in God, Focused on Others*

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The Rev. Amy Whitcomb Slemmer, Esq.  
Suzanne Bunszel, Warden  
Sean Glennon, Music Director

Joanne Bibeau, Administrative Assistant  
Jesse Avellino, Sexton  
Courtney Hill, Sunday School Director

## **Today:**

Lay Readers: Suzanne Bunszel and Janet Keane

**Vestry Officers & Members:** Suzanne Bunszel, Warden; Michelle Joyce, Treasurer; Elise McKee; Gordon O'Reilly; Jen Mitchell and Sherry Long

## **Contact Information:**

For all of our latest news, check out:  
our website [www.standrewshanover.org](http://www.standrewshanover.org); or  
our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/standrewshanover/>;  
or our youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@saintandrewshanoverma/>

Rev. Amy's email address is [RevAmy@standrewshanover.org](mailto:RevAmy@standrewshanover.org) and  
pastoral phone is 781-422-4112.

Joanne Bibeau's email address is [office@standrewshanover.org](mailto:office@standrewshanover.org) and  
the office phone is 781-826-2062.

## **RECURRING EVENTS:**

Sundays: 9:30am service, Choir practice 8:45 a.m., Sunday School/Children's Chapel  
Coffee Hour following service

Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.;

Thursday: 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Mondays: Rector's Sabbath

**online giving link:**

