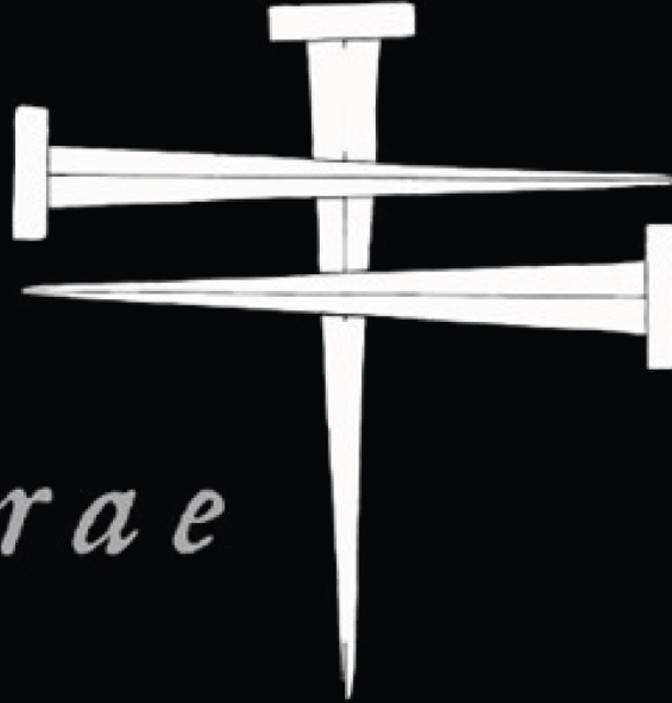




CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
Vancouver, BC · *Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds*



*Tenebrae*

***Wednesday in Holy Week***  
**Tenebrae: A Service of Shadows**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

7:00 P.M.

*In-Person & Livestream*

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The Rev. Claude St-Denis, *Presider & Preacher*  
Dr. Neil Cockburn, *Director of Music*

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# *Welcome to the Cathedral*

Whether today is your first time with us, or if this is your spiritual home, we welcome you to the Cathedral. We're glad that you're here today.

We envision a radically inclusive, restlessly inquisitive, intentional, and inspired Cathedral. This is a place that is called to lead and to serve, in communion and community, with healing, reconciliation, and love, living out the Christian mission. Together, we look to the power of Christ for the transformation of each person, this city of Vancouver, and the world.

We recognize our history and traditions while seeking renewal and growth in spiritual depth and size. Curious and adaptable, this chorus has room for every voice — especially yours.

To learn more about the many ministries and opportunities for service in this community, please visit our website: [www.thecathedral.ca](http://www.thecathedral.ca).

Thank you for joining us today. Your presence enriches our life together.

Faithfully yours in Christ,



The Very Rev. Christopher A. Pappas, Ph.D., D.Min.  
Dean & Rector



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## *The Liturgy of Tenebrae*

*Tenebrae*, meaning “darkness” or “shadows,” is a service of readings, psalms, and choral music that reflects on the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As candles are gradually extinguished, the gathering darkness reminds us of Christ’s betrayal, suffering, and death.

**Please enter and depart in silence.**

Please remain seated during readings and psalms.

You are invited to meditate silently following each lesson and anthem.

There will be no closing blessing or dismissal. We await the Resurrection in silence and hope.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*All* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

## Opening Prayer

*Officiant* Almighty 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;  
and to suffer death upon the cross;  
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

*All* Amen.

## I. The Shadow of Betrayal

**Psalm 69:1-23** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 791]

**Lesson I: Lamentations 1:1-5**

**Choir Anthem**

*Ne Irascaris Domine*

William Byrd (1540-1623)

Be not angry, O Lord, and remember our iniquity no more.  
Behold, we are all your people.

*Extinguish one candle. Silence.*

## II. The Shadow of Desertion

**Psalm 70** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 794]

**Lesson II: Lamentations 1:6-9**

**Choir Anthem**

*Civitas Sancti Tui*

William Byrd (1540-1623)

Your holy city has become a wilderness.  
Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem has been made desolate.

*Extinguish one candle. Silence.*

# *III. The Shadow of Denial*

**Psalm 74** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 801]

## **Lesson III: Lamentations 1:10-14**

### *Troisième leçon de ténèbre*

François Couperin (1668-1733)

Bahareh Poureslami, Soprano; Daniel Moody, Countertenor

Enemies have stretched out their hands  
over all her precious things;  
she has even seen the nations  
invade her sanctuary,  
those whom you forbade  
to enter your congregation.

All her people groan  
as they search for bread;  
they trade their treasures for food  
to revive their lives.  
Look, O Lord, and see  
how worthless I have become.

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?  
Look and see  
if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,  
which was brought upon me,  
which the Lord inflicted  
on the day of his fierce anger.

From on high he sent fire;  
it went deep into my bones;  
he spread a net for my feet;  
he turned me back;  
he has left me stunned,  
faint all day long.

My transgressions were bound into a yoke;  
by his hand they were fastened together;  
they weigh on my neck,  
sapping my strength;  
the Lord handed me over  
to those whom I cannot withstand.

*Extinguish one candle. Silence.*

## *IV. The Shadow of Trial and Mockery*

**Psalm 88** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 821]

### **Lesson IV: From the Confessions of St. Augustine**

#### **The Hymn of Kassia**

Music: Fr Stephen Maholick, adapt from an Old Bulgarian Chant  
Text: St. Kassia, 9th-century Byzantine

The woman who had fallen into many sins, O Lord,  
yet when she perceived thy divinity, she joined the ranks of the myrrh-bearers.  
In tears she brought thee myrrh before thy burial. She cried, “Woe is me!  
I live in the night of licentiousness,  
shrouded in the dark and moonless love of sin.  
But accept the fountain of my tears.  
Thou who didst gather the waters of the sea into clouds,  
bow down thine ear to the sighing of my heart.  
Thou who didst bow the heavens in thine ineffable condescension.  
Once Eve heard thy footsteps in paradise in the cool of the day,  
and in fear she ran and hid herself.  
But now I will tenderly embrace those pure feet.  
And wipe them with the hair of my head.  
Who can measure the multitude of my sins, or the depth of thy judgments?  
O Saviour of my soul, do not despise thy servant,  
for thy mercy is beyond measure.”

*Extinguish one candle. Silence.*

## *V. The Shadow of Crucifixion*

**Psalm 51** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 770]

### **Lesson V: Hebrews 4:15—5:10; 9:11-15a**

#### **Choir Anthem**

*Tristis Est Anima Mea*

Giovanni Croce (1557-1609)

My soul is sorrowful even unto death: stay here, and watch with me:  
now ye shall see the multitude that will surround me:  
Ye shall take flight, and I shall go to be sacrificed for you.

*Extinguish one candle. Silence.*

# *VI. The Shadow of Death*

**Psalm 54** (*chanted by the choir*)

[BAS p. 773]

## **Lesson VI: The Passion According to John (John 19:1-37)**

**Choir Anthem**

*Christus Factus Est*

Felice Anerio (1560-1614)

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to the death, death on the cross.

*Extinguish the final visible candle. Silence.*

## **The Christ Candle and the Strepitus**

*The Christ Candle is removed from sight, symbolizing Christ's death and burial.*

*Silence is kept.*

*The Officiant says the Collect without chant, and without the usual conclusion.*

Almighty 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.

*[STREPITUS – A loud noise is made]*

*(A sharp sound, such as a slammed book or a thunder sheet, represents the earthquake and the rending of the temple veil.)*

*After a moment, the Christ Candle is returned — still hidden — signifying that the light has not been overcome by darkness.*

*All depart in silence.*

# *The Chronicle Newsletter*

Scan the QR code for the latest Chronicle newsletter.



# *The Prayers of the People*

Scan the QR code for the prayer cycles.



# *The Ministers of the Liturgy*

<i>President &amp; Preacher</i>	The Rev. Claude St-Denis
<i>Readers</i>	Hadani Ditmars, Colin Miles
<i>Music</i>	The Cathedral Chamber Choir Bahareh Poureslami (Soprano) Daniel Moody (Countertenor) Dr. Neil Cockburn (Director of Music)
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Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔł (Tsleil-Waututh) nations, in the heart of Vancouver.

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