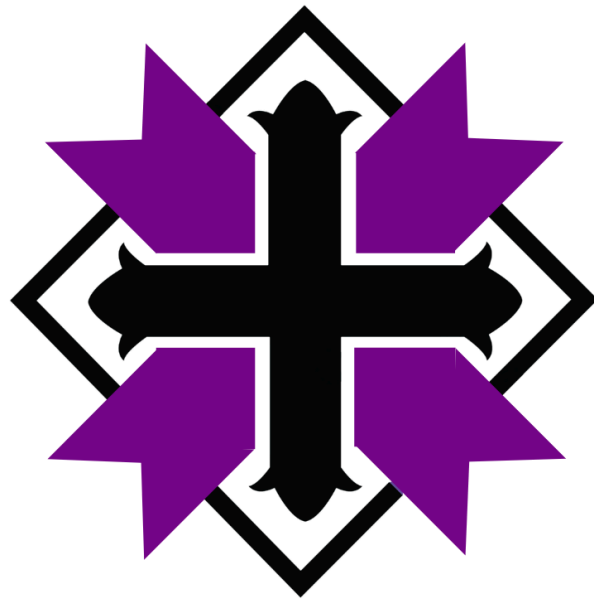


# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

*Savannah, GA - Since 1800*



## A SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

*Historic | Liturgical | Vibrant*

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Good Friday - April 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm

*The people are asked to be in silent prayer  
and meditation upon entering the sanctuary.*

ORGAN PRELUDE – “Adagio in G Minor”

by Tomaso Albinoni

WELCOME & INVOCATION

INTROIT – “O Divine Redeemer”

by Charles Gounod

FIRST READING – John 18:1-11 (*Jesus is betrayed and arrested*)

HYMN NO. 97 – “Go to Dark Gethsemane” (*Stanza 1 - please remain seated to sing*)

*Chorale Prelude Introduction by David Cherwien*

SECOND READING – John 18:12-27 (*Peter's denials*)

HYMN NO. 93 – “Ah, Holy Jesus” (*Stanza 1 - please remain seated to sing*)

*Chorale Prelude Introduction by Johannes Brahms*

THIRD READING – John 18:28-40 (*“What is truth?”*)

HYMN NO. 98 – “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (*Stanza 2 - please remain seated to sing*)

*Chorale Prelude Introduction by Felix Mendelssohn*

FOURTH READING – John 19:1-16a (*“Here is your king!”*)

HYMN NO. 100 – “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (*Stanza 3 – please remain seated to sing*)  
*Chorale Prelude Introduction by Robert Buckley Farlee*

FIFTH READING – John 19:16b-27 (*Jesus speaks from the cross*)

HYMN NO. 78 – “Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed” (*Stanza 2 – please remain seated to sing*)  
*Chorale Prelude Introduction by Robert Buckley Farlee*

SIXTH READING – John 19:28-37 (*“It is finished.”*)

HYMN NO. 85 – “What Wondrous Love Is This” (*Stanza 1 – please remain seated to sing*)  
*Chorale Prelude Introduction by John Behnke*

SEVENTH READING – John 19:38-42 (*Jesus is laid in the tomb*)

HYMN NO. 543 – “Abide with Me” (*Stanza 5 – please remain seated to sing*)  
*Chorale Prelude Introduction by Austin Lovelace*

CLOSING PRAYER & BENEDICTION

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The processional cross, candles, Bible, and paraments will be removed from the sanctuary.  
When this portion of the service is complete, the people are asked to depart in silence.  
All are invited to return for worship on Easter Sunday at 11:00 am.*

# SERVICE NOTES

Welcome to First Baptist Church, an inclusive congregation that worships in Savannah's oldest standing church building. We believe Jesus treated everyone with a spirit of love and equality. Therefore, we accept every individual without regard to age, gender, race, ethnicity, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, or socio-economic status. We affirm all persons as created in the image of God. At First Baptist Church, individuals can find family, families can find community, the injured can find healing, and all can seek truth and justice. We labor together in love for each other, our community, our world, and our God. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcomed, you are accepted, you are loved. For more information, please visit [www.fbc-sav.org](http://www.fbc-sav.org).

Tenebrae, meaning "darkness" or "shadows" in Latin, is a solemn service traditionally observed during Holy Week, often on Good Friday or the evening before. It is a time of reflection on the suffering and death of Christ. Through a series of scripture readings, prayers, and the gradual extinguishing of candles, the service moves from light into darkness—symbolizing the abandonment and death of Jesus, and the seeming silence of God. Tenebrae invites us into the mystery of the cross with reverence, silence, and expectation.

Chorale preludes are musical meditations rooted in the rich tradition of Lutheran worship. Originally composed as organ settings of hymn tunes, these pieces were designed to introduce or reflect upon the chorale (or hymn) sung by the congregation. Often built around a familiar melody, the chorale prelude weaves intricate harmonies and expressive counterpoint around the tune, offering listeners a deeper encounter with the theological and emotional depth of the hymn text. From the reverent simplicity of early settings to the masterful works of composers like J.S. Bach, chorale preludes invite the heart and mind to engage prayerfully with the truths of the faith through sound.

## SERVING TONIGHT

Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese  
*Senior Minister*

Rev. Dr. Justin L. Addington  
*Minister for Music & Worship*

Rev. Emily Richardson-Dion  
*Minister for Discipleship*

Gina K. Shields  
*Soprano Soloist*

Marilyn Borst, Mark Borst,  
Evan Goetz, and Carol Melton  
*Worship Assistants*