



**Maundy Thursday  
March 28, 2023  
6:00 p.m.**

*As believers in Jesus Christ, we strive with unconditional love and selflessness – using our God given gifts – to provide a nurturing shelter for those seeking a Christian home. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth through worship, education, fellowship, prayer and Christian action throughout our community and the world.*

**Called by God  
Sharing with the World**

# The Table for Maundy Thursday

## Arrival and Informal Greeting

### Greeting and Invitation to the Table

Pastor: Why is this night different from all others? On this night Jesus desired to celebrate the Passover meal in Jerusalem.

He said to his friends: "I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

**People: On this night, Jesus the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would kill him.**

Pastor: On this night Jesus took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us.

**All: On this night, Jesus blessed and broke the bread of life. Jesus poured out his blood to take away the sin of the world. Jesus gave us a holy feast to bless what is broken, to forgive what is sin, to make all things new. Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for daily bread, for loving hands which prepared these tables and this meal. Grant us refreshment of body and soul as we gather in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Anthem**            *Come to the Table of Grace* - Joseph M. Martin

## The Fellowship Meal

### Gospel Lesson - John 13: 1-17, 33-35

Pastor: Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father.

**People: Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.**

Pastor: The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. Knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, Jesus got up from the table took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel. He came to Simon Peter who said to him:

**People: "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"**

Pastor: Jesus answered, "You do not know what I am doing now, but later you will understand."

**People: "You will never wash my feet"**

Pastor: "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me."

**People: "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!"**

Pastor: "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet. And you are clean, though not all of you. Jesus said this for he knew who was to betray him. After Jesus had washed their feet, he put on his robe and returned to the table saying: "Do you know what I have done to you" You call me Teacher and Lord and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done. Servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them" I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

**People: By this everyone will know that we are Christ's disciples, if we have love for one another.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Pastor: Holy Jesus, we have promised to live as your disciples, yet we confess that we have not loved you or one another with our whole heart.

**People: We have sinned in what we have done and in what we have failed to do.**

Pastor: We do not work together as one to your glory.

**People: Receive us and forgive us that we may commit ourselves anew to live out the love you have shown to us. Lord, have mercy.**

*(Silent confession)*

## **Affirmation of Forgiveness**

## **Jesus' Words of Institution**

## **Blessing of the Elements**

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and this cup and all of us with the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be salt and light and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

## **The Lord's Prayer ('debts' and 'debtors')**

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **Sharing of the Elements**

Take and eat; in remembrance of the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**

Take and drink; in remembrance of the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Pastor: We give thanks, O God,  
that in your free gift of love you have reached out to us.

**People: You have refreshed us at your table  
and called us to life shared in memory and hope.**

Pastor: Grant us courage and joy, so that we may become servants following Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Hymn of Thanksgiving

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

## Process into the Sanctuary

*(Following the Crucifer, members of the choir shall lead the congregation in the nave, where you will remain standing for the first hymn.)*

## Hymn of Response #272      *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

Go to dark Gethsemane  
You that feel the tempter's power  
Your Redeemer's conflict see;  
Watch with him one bitter hour;  
Turn not from his griefs away;  
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

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.

Calvary's mournful mountain climb;  
There, adoring at his feet,  
mark that miracle of time,  
God's own sacrifice complete;  
"It is finished!" hear him cry;  
Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

## The Service of Tenebrae

### Readings and Extinguishing of Lights

#### First Reading

**Kay Jones**

#### Shadow of Betrayal

Matthew 26: 20-30  
*(Candle One is Extinguished.)*

#### Second Reading

**Larry Kelly**

#### Shadow of Desertion

Matthew 26: 31-35  
*(Candle Two is Extinguished.)*

#### Hymn #254

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley (vs.1-3)*

Jesus walked this lonesome valley,  
He had to walk it by himself;  
O, nobody else could walk it for him,  
He had to walk it by himself.

Jesus died on Calvary's mountain;  
He died alone for you and me.  
O, nobody else could die for sinners  
He had to die for you and me.

#### Third Reading

**Kay Jones**

#### Agony of the Soul

Luke 22: 41-44  
*(Candle Three is Extinguished.)*

#### Fourth Reading

**Larry Kelly**

#### Unshared Vigil

Mark 14: 34-42  
*(Candle Four is Extinguished.)*

#### Musical Response

*Could You Not Tarry With Me One Hour* - Tim Shepherd  
Ally Murphy, solo

**Fifth Reading**

**Irma Johnson**

**Arrest in the Garden**

Mark 14: 43-50

*(Candle Five is Extinguished.)*

**Sixth Reading**

**Jamie Barton**

**Jesus Before the Council**

Mark 14: 55-64

*(Candle Six is Extinguished.)*

**Anthem**

*Behold Him in Dark Gethsemane* - Beall/Althouse

**Seventh Reading**

**Irma Johnson**

**Jesus Before Pilate**

Mark 15: 1-5, 12-15

*(Candle Seven is Extinguished.)*

**Eighth Reading**

**Jamie Barton**

**Shadow of the Cross** Mark 15: 25-30, 33-37

*(Candle Eight is Extinguished.)*

**Hymn #283**

*Were You There?*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord:

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

**Final Reading**

**Pastor Jeff**

**The Word was God**      John 1: 1-5, 14, 16

*(Christ's candle is extinguished; we will remain in darkness for a time.)*

**The Return of the Light**

*(Christ's candle is relit)*

**Silent Recessional**

*(Please maintain silence as you leave.)*

***Sincere and loving thanks to everyone who played a part in tonight's service.***