



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9, 2020 ✦ 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

GATHERING

Song — “A Spendthrift Lover Is the Lord”

Jonah Garcia, soloist

A spendthrift lover is the Lord who never counts the cost
or asks if heaven can afford to woo a world that's lost.
Our lover tosses coins of gold across the midnight skies
and stokes the sun against the cold to warm us when we rise.
Still more is spent in blood and tears to win the human heart,
to overcome the violent fears that drive the world apart.
Behold the bruised and thorn-crowned face of one who bears our scars
and empties out the wealth of grace that's hinted by the stars.
How shall we love this heart-strong God who gives us everything,
whose ways to use are strange and odd; what can we give or bring?
Acceptance of the matchless gift is gift enough to give.
The very act will shake and shift the way we love and live.

Welcome

Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the forces of evil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Most merciful God,

***Many:* we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name.**

Silence is kept for personal confession and reflection.

One: God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace we have been saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, know that our sins are forgiven.

May Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Many: Amen. Thanks be to God.

Hymn — “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

O WALY WALY



1 An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare
2 A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own:
3 And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet,
4 No end there is! We de - part in peace.



for those he loved un - til the end:
to share his bread, his lov - ing cup.
for ser - vice, too, is sac - ra - ment.
He loves be - yond our ut - ter - most:



and his dis - ci - ples still gath - er there
What - ev - er bur - dens may bow us down,
In Christ our joy shall be made com - plete:
in ev - ery room in our Ma - ker's house



to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.
he by his cross shall lift us up.
sent out to serve, as he was sent.
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Scripture Reading — Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

In the Jewish Passover the blood of the lamb replaced the blood of the firstborn, and so God granted life to the people. When the first three gospels say that the last supper was a Passover meal, they connect the Jewish cup of salvation with the blood of Christ.

Psalter — Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

One: I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

Many: **for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

One: How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

Many: **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.**

One: Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.

Many: **O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

One: I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

Many: **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,
in the courts of the LORD'S house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem**

Scripture Reading — John 13:1-17, 31b-35

On the Thursday before he was crucified, Jesus connected a meal shared with his disciples with his coming death, and he demonstrated the meaning of his death by washing their feet. The meal, the footwashing, and the death of Christ—all convey God's love.

Meditation

The Rev. Matthew Emery

The Washing

INTRODUCTION — “Wash my hands, not my feet” by Lucy Nanson

A RITUAL OF HAND-WASHING

On this night we have heard Christ’s commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God’s love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the ritual of washing, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

DURING THE WASHING — “Where True Charity” (*Ubi caritas*), plainchant *Jonah Garcia, soloist*

REFRAIN: Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.

We are gathered by the one love of Christ Jesus;
let us lift our voices to God and be joyful.

In holy wonder let us love the living God,
and may our hearts ever be one in faithful love. *Refrain.*

Since we are all one in the Lord, as we gather,
let us be watchful that no strife still divide us.

Contention, evil, ill will, spite—may these all cease;
with us, abiding in our midst, is Christ our God. *Refrain.*



MEAL

Scripture Reading — 1st Corinthians 11:23-26

Paul describes Jesus’ last supper and hands on to others the tradition that sharing in the bread and cup of this meal proclaims the redemption of the Lord.

Hymn — “Let Us Break Bread Together”

LET US BREAK BREAD



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink the cup to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink the cup to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.



When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Thanksgiving at the Table

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Lord Jesus, who in self-sacrificing love
poured out yourself on the cross for us,

Many: **We offer you our worship and devotion.**

One: Lord Jesus Christ, who in sin-conquering love
opened to us the resurrection and the life,

Many: **We offer you our thanks and praise.**

One: Lord Jesus Christ, who in world-redeeming love reigns over all
and seeks in love to draw us and all people to yourself.

Many: **We offer you our faith and service.**

One: With language borrowed from angelic choirs,
and yet only mirrored dimly in the distortions of human words,
we attempt to express our gratitude, Lord Jesus,
for the gift of your wondrous love for us.
In our gratitude and our brokenness, bless us.

Bless us, and bless these gifts of bread and the fruit of the vine,
that, now being set apart from a common to a sacred and mystical use,
they may be to us your body and your blood,
and that through the power of the Holy Spirit,
we may be made to partake of your blessed life, fully and truly.

Many: Lord Jesus Christ, open our eyes
that we too may see you in the breaking of this bread! Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Pastor Matt will guide worshipers through the breaking of the bread and inviting them to partake of communion, sharing together with those present physically in the same place and via video with the whole gathered assembly.

An Open Table! *When we celebrate Holy Communion we are all guests at the table, with Jesus himself as our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of the Holy Communion is open to all — including children—who wish to know the presence of Christ and the community of God’s people, and not merely members of this congregation or denomination. This is a joyful feast for all the people of God.*

Prayer after Communion

One: You have fed us, Lord, and we are grateful.

Many: Allow us to respond this day, and in the days to come,
with hearts made ready, eyes made open,
hands made strong, and feet made willing
to do your will in this place,
and in all the places to which you call us. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

Poetic reading — “Shadows Gather, Deep and Cold” by Sylvia Dunstan

Mantra — “Stay With Me”

STAY WITH ME (Taizé)

Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and

pray. Watch and pray.

The worship service ends in silence.

Acknowledgements

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- Poetic reading – “Shadows Gather, Deep and Cold”: Text by Sylvia Dunstan, appearing in *Voices United: The Hymn and Worship Book of the United Church of Canada*, ©1996 The United Church Publishing House, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; #134.
- Mantra – “Stay with Me”: Text by the Taizé Community, 1982. Music by Jacques Berthier, 1982. ©1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.; all rights reserved; reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-719182. Reprinted from *Glory to God: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs*, ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press, #527.