



Trinity United Church of Christ

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

In-Person Worship

FB Live Streaming

Repairing: For Such a Time as This

Light Into Darkness:

A Tenebrae Service

**The Mission of Trinity United Church of Christ:
*We exist to Love people where they are and
encourage them to grow in their relationship
with Jesus Christ.***

Meditation of the Day - May God's love wrap and enfold you,
embrace you and guide you, and bring you comfort. ~Julian of
Norwich~

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

*This is a **Safe and Loving Place**, a "Sanctuary" for
worship, praise, and reflection; and to remember that **'No
Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life's Journey,
You are Welcome Here!***

Prelude: Ubi Caritas | Hannah Matthews, organist

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

READING THE *MANDATUM NOVUM* (New Commandment)

John 13: 34-35

(The origin for the name Maundy Thursday)

One: Jesus spent his life teaching us the meaning of love. Through word and deed Jesus showed us how to love God and to love one another. He fed the hungry. He healed the sick. He invited the women and the children and the tax collectors and the sinners to come to his table. He broke bread with the least and the lost and shared the cup of redemption with them all. He crossed boundaries of race, nationality, ethnicity, gender, and class. He challenged religious authority, and he scoffed at pomposity and self-absorbed grandeur. He called out the hypocrites. He admonished the scribes and the Pharisees for their hardened hearts. He brought a simple message: Love God, love yourself, and love one another.

All: **We gather in the name of Jesus and remember the way that he showed us. We gather to remember not just his death, but his life.**

One: The way of Jesus goes through the cross, but we are not there yet. It is close. We can see its shadow. We can feel the cold, dark, night. We know that the enemies of God are conspiring. They have had enough of him. He threatens their comfort. He threatens their way of life. He threatens their power. They will come for him. First though, we will gather. We gather with Jesus and his closest friends. We gather with those that called him teacher, Rabbi, friend. We gather for the Passover meal, to remember that God saved the people from slavery. God saved once. God saves forevermore.

All: **God saved the Israelites at Passover, and revealed that it is God who reigns, not the Pharaoh. Our God saved once. God saves forevermore.**

One: Even as they were sharing this sacred meal together, the disciples were not of one heart. Jesus knew that he was asking much from these men, and he knew that they would fail him. Judas had already agreed to betray Jesus to the religious authorities. Was he angry at some slight? Was he disappointed that Jesus would not raise an army against the Romans? Was he upset with the value of the oil that the woman “wasted” when she anointed Jesus? We will never know Judas’ heart, but Jesus knew that he would be betrayed. And did Jesus do with the man that would betray him? He broke bread with him. All of the disciples were deeply saddened, and they asked:

All: I would never betray you, Lord. It’s not me, is it?

One: On the night in which Jesus was betrayed by his friend, he took the bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

All: “This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

One: When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples and said,

“Drink from this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.”

One: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and the cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by Christ’s blood. By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all

the world, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your Holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father now and forever.

***Hymn of Preparation: *Eat This Bread* (#414 Chalice)
(Repeat)**

The Meal is Shared

The Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion of Jesus Christ

FIRST OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:1-12

Extinguishing of the First Candle

One: Let us pray:

All: Spirit of Christ, be with us now. We may try to avoid this hour of trouble; we may not stay awake. Help us to face our fear of the cross on which you died. Help us face the crosses we must carry to honor your life.

SECOND OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:13-27

Extinguishing of the Second Candle

One: Let us pray:

All: We are your disciples. And we too follow you with confusion and fear. Strengthen us, we pray, so that we may walk through life into death without fear; through the night into eternal light. Amen

THIRD OF THE SHADOWS

John 18:28-19:16a

Extinguishing of the Third Candle

***Hymn: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (#226 NCH)**

FOURTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19:16b-27

Extinguishing of the Fourth Candle

***Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (#224 NCH)**

FIFTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19:28-37

Extinguishing of the Fifth Candle

The Lord's Prayer

SIXTH OF THE SHADOWS

John 19:38-42

Extinguishing of the Sixth Candle

***Hymn: *Were You There?* (#145 Living Church) (verse 1**

One: "Jesus is dead...It is finished."

EXTINGUISHING THE SEVENTH CANDLE

The Stripping of the Sanctuary

There is no Benediction because the events of this night do not conclude until Easter morning resurrection. Keep the faith in vigil through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please depart in silence.

The sanctuary will be open on Good Friday at 10 am for private meditation and you are invited to join us for the ecumenical cross walk at 11 am at Grace Lutheran Church. The walk will conclude at Church of the Ascension.

March 31 – Easter Sunday

Renewing: Is Anything Too Wonderful for Our God? Faith

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 John 20:1-18

Message – *Who Will Roll The Stone Away?*

Worship Notes and Resources: Sources: adapted from - <https://fatpastor.me/2012/04/03/maundy-thursday-liturgy/>, https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/maundy_thursday_tenebrae_service.pdf **Light Into Darkness: A Service for Maundy Thursday** was adapted from the service written by the Rev. Dr. David Bahr, pastor of Park Hill Congregational United Church of Christ in Denver, Colorado.



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