

Worship for Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2009

*An asterisk * indicates standing, as you are able.
The congregation's responses are in **bold italics**.*

The Church is Gathered

Greeting The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Call to Worship

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. As I have loved you, you also should love one another.

MEN: ***On this day Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.***

WOMEN: ***On this day Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room for the Passover meal.***

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

On this day Christ our Lord gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his holy sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection, and at the last day may feast with him in new creation.

ALL: ***Thanks be to God!***

Prelude *Into the Woods My Master Went* Winifred Winans

During the prelude, you are invited to pray silently in preparation for worship.

To Remember God's Grace

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 12:1-14*

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God!***

Hymn *An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare* Hymnal #94

Remain seated for this hymn.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Faithful God, your covenant with us is never broken, yet we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command.

In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

* **Response** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Hymnal #101

* **Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of our Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

To Hear God's Word

Duet *Pie Jesu from Requiem* Andrew Webber

Blessed Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant them rest.
O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
Grant them eternal rest.

New Testament Reading *Luke 22:14-30*

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God!***

Sermon *A Kingdom of Servants*

Profession of Faith *The Confession of 1967, adapted*

Our new life in Christ does not release us from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, fear. We still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as we mature in love and faithfulness in our life with Christ, we live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

Our new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of apostles and prophets guides us in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips us for our ministries.

To Gather around God's Table

Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together* **Hymnal #513**
Remain seated for this hymn.

Sacrament of Communion by Intinction

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of Thanksgiving ♦ The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup *(Come 12 at a time)*

As you wait to come forward to the table, or after you have been served, you are encouraged to pray silently for the ministry of the church.

To Depart to Trust in God

Scripture Reading *Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19*

Depart in silence.

This service continues on Good Friday at 7:30 pm.

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