

Welcome to Our Maundy Thursday Worship

The term “Maundy” refers to the “Washing of the Feet” that marks the new commandment given to us by our Christ in John 13. As Jesus gathered with his disciples shortly before his betrayal and arrest, he told them ... “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples ... if you have love for one another.”

Our Maundy Thursday service is an opportunity for us to gather in faithful unity, committed to living as our Savior taught us ... in humble servitude to God and one another. Tonight, we remember how our Lord and Savior washed the feet of his disciples and shared one bread and one cup with them in preparation for his impending crucifixion and death.

**Those who are able, please stand in body or spirit.*

*(The congregation is invited to join in speaking or singing **items in bold.**)*

We Gather in Fellowship

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

*HYMN 466

*Come and Fill Our Hearts
(Sung Three Times)*

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

On this night, Christ showed his love for all by humbly serving the least among us.

On this night, Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

On this night, Christ took a towel and washed the disciples’ feet.

On this night, Christ gave us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us.

On this night, Christ gave us a holy feast as a way of remembering all he had done.

On this night, we remember ... we eat this bread and drink this cup to proclaim once more Christ’s sacrifice of love so that we may reign with him in heaven at the last day.

*HYMN 202

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, whose covenant is never broken; we confess the many ways we fail each day to live as your faithful disciples. Though you have bound yourself to us, we resist fully binding ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and avoid opportunities to serve one another. We do not love you with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength; nor do we love our neighbors as ourselves.

In your great mercy, forgive us and cleanse us from our sinful nature. Lead us again to your table of loving grace and merciful sacrifice. In bread and cup, unite us once more with our Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in loving and humble service for you and for one another ...

(Please continue in silent prayer of confession.)

Together, let all of God’s people say ... **amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (Hymn 447)

We Are Forgiven (Sung Twice)

We Prepare in Faithfulness

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

John 13:1-17

In Jeremiah 18, we are reminded that God is the potter and we are the clay. And in 2 Corinthians 4, we are told that the gifts of faith are treasures in jars of clay.

This imagery of our lives as fragile works of pottery forged by the hand of our God makes the impact of sin, death, and the brokenness they bring tangible in our lives.

Representing these truths and guided by our Savior’s example of humble service, please come forward as you are prepared, choose a piece of broken pottery from the bowl, wash and dry it in the life-giving and soul-shaping waters of our baptism, and take it with you to serve as a reminder of our brokenness and command to service.

ANTHEM

For Love of You

Carter

