



Maundy Thursday Service

April 1, 2021

The Service for Maundy Thursday The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

April 1, 2021
Bethpage Presbyterian Church

7:00 P.M.
Sanctuary

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Meditation"

Thais

OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: **Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.**

Pastor: Beloved people of God, this is the day . . .

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, 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 grown in grace. Amen. *(Please take a few moments for silent confession.)*

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor: . . . in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Brown

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 12:1-14 (NRSV)

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NRSV)

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (NRSV)

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

(continued →)

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

MEDITATION

William Watkins, M.Div., CLP

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC *"Go To Dark Gethsemane"*

Larson

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(The pastor leads the prayers of intercession. After each intercession the pastor says, "Lord in your mercy..." and the people add "... **hear our prayer.**")

Pastor: . . . Continue to lead us from death to life eternal, and let our lives be a sign of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC *"Pilgrim's Hymn"*

Stephen Paulus

EUCHARIST

Pastor: What shall we offer for all God's goodness to us? (*Psalm 116:12-13*)

People: Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

(*Exodus 12:14; 1 Cor. 11:26*)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful in every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. As one of us, he knew our joys and sorrows, and our struggles with temptation . . .

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: We give you thanks that on the night of his arrest Jesus took bread, and giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of our faith:

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

(*The pastor continues*) Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine. . . . Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

All: 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

(1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

Pastor: Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?
The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

(The people come forward one by one, maintaining safe distancing, to receive the bread and wine, then return to their seats down the side aisles)

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of our Savior. As you have nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim your great love for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(The people are seated and remain in silence while the church is stripped and the candles are extinguished. A reader reads Psalm 88.)

(After the stripping of the church, all depart in silence.)

† † † † †

*An asterisk indicates that all who are able may stand.

TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our worship. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome into membership all who love Jesus Christ, accept him as Lord of all life, and seek to serve him as part of his body in the church. We invite you to speak to one of our elders, greeting you at the door as you leave the worship service.

THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH	CLASS OF 2021
Sherry Shifflett, <i>Clerk</i> Dennis Graybeal, <i>Treasurer</i> Jenny Linebarrier, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Chris Ferguson, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i> Brandi Lackey, <i>Christian Education</i> Linda VanPelt, <i>Fellowship</i>
CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2022
Jean Brown, <i>Communications</i> Ed Kusper, <i>Stewardship</i> Madison Scarborough, <i>Personnel</i>	Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i> Christel Josey, <i>Property</i> Dougie Kirkman, <i>Property</i>



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GOOD FRIDAY ~ April 2

Good Friday Service at 7:00 PM
in the Church Sanctuary

EASTER SUNDAY ~ April 4

The Celebration of the Resurrection with Communion at 9:55 AM
in the Church Sanctuary