



MAUNDY THURSDAY

SEVEN OAKS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 9, 2020

Welcome! We pray that you will truly experience
God's love and grace as you worship!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The Name Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin Vulgate version of John 13:34 "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another." The word "maundy" is a corruption of "mandatum" meaning commandment.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR WALK WITH JESUS

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 what 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?

Leader: 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: "This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Leader: 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 and 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."

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 has risen. Christ will come again.

Leader: 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 are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 26:26-28

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you;²⁸ for this is my blood of the ^[a]covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

MEDITATION

Our Piece of the Holy

Rev. Dr. Barry Shatzer

COMMUNION IN SILENCE

VOLUNTARY

"Bread of the World in Mercy Broken"

Hymn 499

One: When the holy meal had been shared, the disciples began to argue over which one would be the greatest. Even here, at the end of their time together, they did not seem to understand what Jesus had been teaching them all along. He reminded them that to be great in the Kingdom of God meant to serve. After Jesus' talk of betrayal, the disciples' argument, and Jesus' rebuke of them, the disciples seemed to be growing anxious. Peter proclaimed:

All: "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

One: And Jesus replied, "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day until you have denied three times that you know me." Afterwards, Jesus led his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane. He asked them to pray for him, for he wanted to be alone. There, Jesus prayed. He asked his friends to keep watch, but they kept falling asleep. He prayed for another way out. He prayed in anguish. He prayed as a man who could feel pain, who would be hurt by betrayal, who would be scarred by the scourge, and would bleed when nails were driven into his arms and legs. He prayed as a man who knew that if he followed God's will, he would be charged, convicted, mocked, humiliated, abandoned, and nailed to a cross. Knowing all of this full well, he prayed, "Not my will, but yours." Then he stood up for all that he had lived for. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

All: Judas said to Jesus, "Rabbi" and kissed him. Then they came and grabbed Jesus and arrested him.

One: There was a brief skirmish at the arrest, but his disciples quickly scattered. Peter, who had only hours before promised to go with Jesus to prison, even death, followed from a distance. During the trial, Peter remained hidden in the shadows. First a servant girl saw him and said, "That man was also with him."

All: "Woman, I do not know him."

One: A little later, someone else, on seeing him said, "You also are one of them."

All: "Man, I am not."

One: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man was with him; for he is a Galilean."

All: "I do not know what you are talking about. I do not know Jesus."

One: At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said to him, and he wept bitterly. As we weep with Peter for the things we have done and left undone, let us look to the Lord in prayer, ending with the Lord's Prayer.

All: Holy One, we acknowledge that on this Holy night, as the stars begin to shine, your light is preparing to go out. We are in a time of great uncertainty and our lives feel shaky without your hope in our midst. Thank you God, for helping us to draw near to you in this meal. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to stand steadfastly with you as we journey to the cross. Thank you for the power of this community now and always. Now hear us as we pray the prayer you taught us to pray.

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.

CLOSING HYMN

What Wondrous Love is This

Hymn 215

¹What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul,
for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

²When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking
down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

³To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will sing,
I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

⁴And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity, I'll sing on.

(Our worship will end abruptly as the meeting will be suspended until we rejoin tomorrow night for our Good Friday Service.)

JOIN US FOR THESE HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Join us again tomorrow night for Good Friday Worship as we continue our walk through Holy Week together, united in Christian fellowship. Sunday we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

SOPC Schedule of Virtual Events this Week

Zoom Link for Lanterns

Fridays at 7:30 a.m.

[https://zoom.us/j/549066835?](https://zoom.us/j/549066835?pwd=RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09)

[pwd=RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09](https://zoom.us/j/549066835?pwd=RmsrMVAXdnJibGlaeGRRNVZhQ0xVdz09)

Meeting ID: 549 066 835

Password: 168424

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 549066835 #

Zoom Link for Evening Services (7:00 p.m.)

[https://zoom.us/j/655872430?pwd=](https://zoom.us/j/655872430?pwd=N2VkbFQxS1cwT0hCT0pBU1RQcktNUT09)

[N2VkbFQxS1cwT0hCT0pBU1RQcktNUT09](https://zoom.us/j/655872430?pwd=N2VkbFQxS1cwT0hCT0pBU1RQcktNUT09)

Meeting ID: 655 872 430

Password: 032614

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 655872430 #



Zoom Link for Sunday School (9:30 a.m.)

[https://zoom.us/j/508111743?](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09)

[pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09](https://zoom.us/j/508111743?pwd=WUpnelhCV2ICTTBKRTczY3I0YU8yZz09)

Meeting ID: 508 111 743

Password: 046739

By Phone: 1646-558-8656 508111743 #

Zoom Link for Easter Service (11:00 a.m.)

[https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

[bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09](https://zoom.us/j/743754044?pwd=bWIHWWJWOFr4UG1zQkZuRVRIaE41dz09)

Meeting ID: 743 754 044

Password: 072863

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 743754044 #