

Maundy Thursda
The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

March 20, 2008

7:30 pm

Gathering of God's People

Prayer & Meditation

Prelude

Call To Worship

This shall be a day of remembrance for you.

You shall celebrate it as a festival to God.

We will pay our vows to God before all the people.

We will offer our sacrifices of thanksgiving.

This is a time for remembering the Last Supper.

We are called to the table to celebrate with Jesus.

We have gathered to break bread together.

We will lift up the cup of salvation.

This is the hour when we are recalled to the command:

“You shall love one another, as I have loved you.”

*Hymn 511

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

*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. . . .

(time for silent confession) . . .

**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 Pardon

*Gloria Patri

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you all.

And also with you.

(Welcome each other in the Spirit of Christ,
and share with them His peace.)

Prayer for Illumination

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I Corinthians 11:23-26

Anthem

"Jesus Took the Cup"

Hal H. Hopson, arr.

The Gospel Lesson: *John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Communion Meditation

"In the Service of Love"

*The *Apostles' Creed*

*Hymn 508 *"For the Bread Which You Have Broken"*

Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Call to 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.

Let us join our lives in prayer.

We love the Lord, because God has heard our voices and our supplications. . .

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

. . . You gave us prophets, to call us to repentance and renew Your covenant with us.

We love the Lord, because God has heard our voices and our supplications.

Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with the celestial choirs

and with all the faithful of every time and place,

who forever sing to the glory of Your name.

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. . .

. . . He who is free takes our place in death's prison.

We love the Lord, because God has heard our voices and our supplications. . .

. . . Great is the mystery of faith.

We remember Christ's death, we proclaim Christ's resurrection,

we await Christ's coming in glory. . .

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Prayer After Communion

What can we answer to You, O Lord, for all Your bounty to us, but unceasing praise and thanksgiving? We have lifted up the cup of salvation and called on the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Accept this, we pray, as honoring our vows to You in the presence of Your people; in the name of Jesus Christ – Sovereign, Savior and Friend. Amen

*Hymn 94 *"An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"*

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude

Maundy Thursday is the traditional name for the fifth day of Holy Week. From the Latin *mandatum*, meaning 'command', the church annually recalls the "new commandment" given by Christ to his disciples this night of the institution of the Lord's Supper. *"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."* (John 13:34)

We welcome everyone to this service of worship, and encourage you to return tomorrow evening at 7:30 pm for a ***Good Friday*** service of darkness. *Tenebrae* is a dramatic reading of the Passion of Christ with hymns and anthems recounting Jesus' sacrificial death. Plan also to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in worship on ***Easter Day*** at 8:30 or 11 am.