

# Maundy Thursday

Maundy comes from the Latin word mandatum, which means "command." Maundy Thursday is Commandment Thursday. The term springs from Jesus' words: "A new commandment I give you..." (John 13:34-35), as He shared the Passover meal with His disciples—a meal that has come to be called the Last Supper.

† Please stand in body or spirit.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME**

#### † CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus, Prince of Peace,

People: Humble and riding on a donkey.

Leader: Jesus, disturber of the peace,

People: You upset bad religion when it gets in the way of God.

Leader: Jesus upsetter of the self-righteous,

People: You turn questions on their head,

Leader: Offering no instant answers,

People: But showing us the way.

Leader: Jesus. lover of the lost.

People: You say, "forgive,' when we would shout 'condemn!".

Leader: Jesus, host at the table,

People: You share your best, even in the face of our worst.

Leader: Jesus. Savior of the world.

All: In your mercy, save us now.

#### † OPENING HYMN #509

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" Holy Manna

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus, as the looming cross comes into focus and the journey's end finally becomes clear to us, our following grows apprehensive. For we are not sure of ourselves, and are ashamed of our commitment. Through the days of journey, we have often been afraid, often sought the safe options, often taken the shortcut. Through the days of journey, we have often tried to hide who we truly are—from others, from ourselves, and from you. We who dare to say we are following you know how faltering are our footsteps, how delicate our discipleship, how feeble our faith.

Yet, you still call us by name and invite us into your company and onto your road. So give us the courage and the commitment we need. Help us to look out for one another. Show us how we may share the duty and the joy of discipleship. Continue to blaze our trail. Continue to accompany us on the way and all the way. Continue to meet us on the road, and say our name...

# MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:7-23 | Pew Bible Page 857

#### **MEDITATION**

Thoughts on Bread & Cup (by Henri Nouwen)

#### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

## † HYMN #504

"We Come, as Guests Invited" Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien

#### **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: Friends, we have all been invited to eat supper in the Lord's house.

People: We come hungry and thirsty.

Leader: Jesus walked into the world inviting everyone to his feast –

the rich and the poor, the faithful and the unfaithful,

the strong and the weak, adults and children.

People: We meet at the Lord's table.

Leader: Come then and sit down to life with our Lord Jesus Christ,

for he will wash the dust from our feet; he will wipe the tears from our eyes;

he will take the burden from our shoulders.

and the heaviness from our hearts.

All: We come now to celebrate life and love!

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

"Let Us Break Bread Together" Let Us Break Bread

Let us break bread together on our knees;

let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

#### THE BLESSING OF THE CUP

Let us drink wine together on our knees: let us drink wine together on our knees. (Refrain)

#### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

(Please come forward and receive the elements.)

Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. (Refrain)

#### PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, we have come with empty hands to your supper—empty hands and dirty feet. We have come as your guests, and with loaf and cup you have made us whole. In this new-found wholeness, set us free now and send us out to serve you. Amen!

#### † CLOSING HYMN #494

"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" Quebec

- **† BENEDICTION**
- **† POSTLUDE**

# Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz. Interim Senior Pastor Joshua Ridenour, Organist

Invitation to the Lord's Table by Ann Weems in Reaching For Rainbows; Prayer of Commitment adapted from Eggs And Ashes, Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill, Editors





