



*"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*

Maundy Thursday
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace,
Immigrant Welcoming Congregation

April 6, 2022 - 6:30 p.m.

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [Virtual Visitor Card](#).

Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus' last night with the disciples where he washed their feet and gave them a new commandment at the last supper: "that you love one another." The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum," meaning commandment.

Prelude *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* Johann Walther
(1684-1748)

Welcome

Opening Hymn *My Song Is Love Unknown* #222 (Rhosymedre)
(verses 1, 2, 5)

Verse 1: My song is love unknown, my
Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless
shown, that they might lovely be.

O who am I, that for my sake my God
should take frail flesh and die? My God
should take frail flesh and die?

Verse 2: God left the richest throne
salvation to bestow; But Christ as flesh
and bone the world refused to know.

But, O my Friend, my Friend indeed, who
at my need did life expend; who at my
need did life expend.

Verse 5: I sing my plain belief, one song
my heart outpours:
Never was pain nor grief, never was love
like yours. This is my Friend, in whose
sweet praise I all my days could gladly
spend; I all my days could gladly spend.

Unison Prayer of Confession

God, we lay you down, and you rise again. We hem you in, but you don't stay put. We walk away, and you find us in our need. We bury our hearts, but they continue to long for you. We deny your name, and turn our backs, and still you're there. We throw stones, and you whisper a prayer. God, we have pushed you out in every way, and you call our names, reminding us that we

belong. Forgive us, because we will make poor choices again. We will lay you down, and yet you will rise again. We will hem you in; please don't stay put.

Words of Assurance

One: Although we often lose our way and we often choose the wrong thing, God is with us, guiding us with every step in the direction of love. The good news is no matter how many times we fall, no matter how many times we choose the wrong path,

Many: God is waiting for us at the end with open arms. We are forgiven. We are invited to the water and to the table. We belong. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

We Remember Water

Scripture	John 13:1-11	Dan Neuger
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Anthem	<i>O Deepest Woe</i> (sung in German)	Franz Liszt (1811-1886)
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O deepest woe! O tears, forth flow!
Has earth so sad a wonder?
God the Father's only son
Now is buried yonder.

Reading	What if God is Water?	Fatalprose
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Remembrance of Baptism *(All joining worship online are invited to share prayers with the congregation by using the chat function at any point during this time.)*

We remember that Jesus used water: water that our bodies still use, so that we might carry the story, dance in it, know it, swim through it, cherish it, float in it, and feel made whole in it, even now. We remember that on his final night, with his disciples by his side, Jesus started with water, because that's where it all began.

We Remember Bread

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Invitation

adapted from Elizabeth Cuff

One: On their own, the bread and cup are nothing. To become a promise of love made real and a world made whole, they need a story, a blessing, and a people who seek.

Many: It would not have been God's table if they hadn't all been gathered around it: the betrayer and the friend, the power-hungry and the justice seeker, the faithful and the fickle.

One: When Jesus poured the cup and the bread was broken, when everyone could eat; the outcast and the beloved, the arrogant and the gracious, the wrong-doer and the wrongly done by,

Many: It was then that the table became an example of love made real and of a world made whole.

One: Our company at the table will include the betrayer and the beloved, the wrong-doer and the wrongly done by.

Many: It would not be God's table without them.

One: Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may; not because you are certain, but because you are hungry; not because you are ready, but because you are thirsty.

Many: We come because when we are gathered, when we tell the story and give the blessing, when we break the bread and drink the cup, we are living into Jesus' vision of love made real and of a world made whole.

Telling the Story**Blessing the Meal**

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Music During Communion

Communion

Richard Purvis (1918-1994)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Remember The Garden

Scripture

Luke 22:39–46

Hymn

Ah, Holy Jesus

#218 (Herzliebster Jesu)

(verses 1 and 4)

Verse 1: Ah, holy Jesus, how have you
offended, that mortal judgment has on
you descended? By foes derided by your
own rejected, O most afflicted!

Verse 4: Therefore, kind Jesus, since I
cannot pay you, I do adore you, and will
ever pray you, Think on your pity and
your love unswerving, not my deserving.

Closing Litany

adapted from Roddy Hamilton

One: We trust the time is now
(with the taste of bread fresh on our lips)

Many: to go into the world and face the night

One: We trust the moment is right
(with the taste of the cup still in our mouths)

Many: to face the powers of the world with the love of heaven

One: We trust the place is here
(with love's mandate echoing in our ears)

Many: to attend to the moments to which love calls us

One: We trust the hour is come
(with the pain of the cross in our hearts)

Many: to conspire with Christ and move against injustice

One: We trust the Gospel is this

(with bread lying broken and a goblet left empty)

Many: love is betrayed, but death will not have the final word.

Anthem

A Ballad of Trees and the Master

Peter Lutkin (1905)

Into the woods my Master went,
Clean forspent, forspent.

Into the woods my Master came,
Forspent with love and shame.

But the olives

they were not blind to him,

The little grey leaves

were kind to him,

The thorn tree had a mind to him,

When into the woods he came.

Out of the woods my Master went

And he was well content;

Out of the woods my Master came,

Content with death and shame.

When death and shame

would woo him last

From under the trees

they drew him last,

'Twas on a tree they slew him last

When out of the woods he came.

—Sydney Lanier (1842-1881)

There is no Benediction, because while the worship concludes, the story continues through Easter Sunday. Please feel free to stay seated as long as you like in the sanctuary until you are ready to leave.

Thanks to this evening's leaders:

Ushers: Pat Richardson, Scott Richardson, Ed Langerak, Lois Langerak, Judy Bond

Scripture Readers: Dan Neuger

Digital Zoom Host: Gary Wagenbach

First UCC Leadership & Staff

Ministers: All the people

Moderator: Gary Carlson

Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox

Associate Minister: Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Director of Music: Chris Brunelle

Organist: Theo Wee

Office Manager & Director of Communications: Kate Kvasnak

Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

AV Technician: Brynn Artley

Sexton: Mark Fischer

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Cover Art: Swanson, John August. Last Supper, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56552> [retrieved March 27, 2023].

Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/>.

Holy Week Schedule

4/7: Good Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

A come-and-go worship experience in the sanctuary
connecting the Passion story with justice issues in our world.

4/9: Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship

Coffee Hour will take place between the two services—all are welcome!

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary and online worship