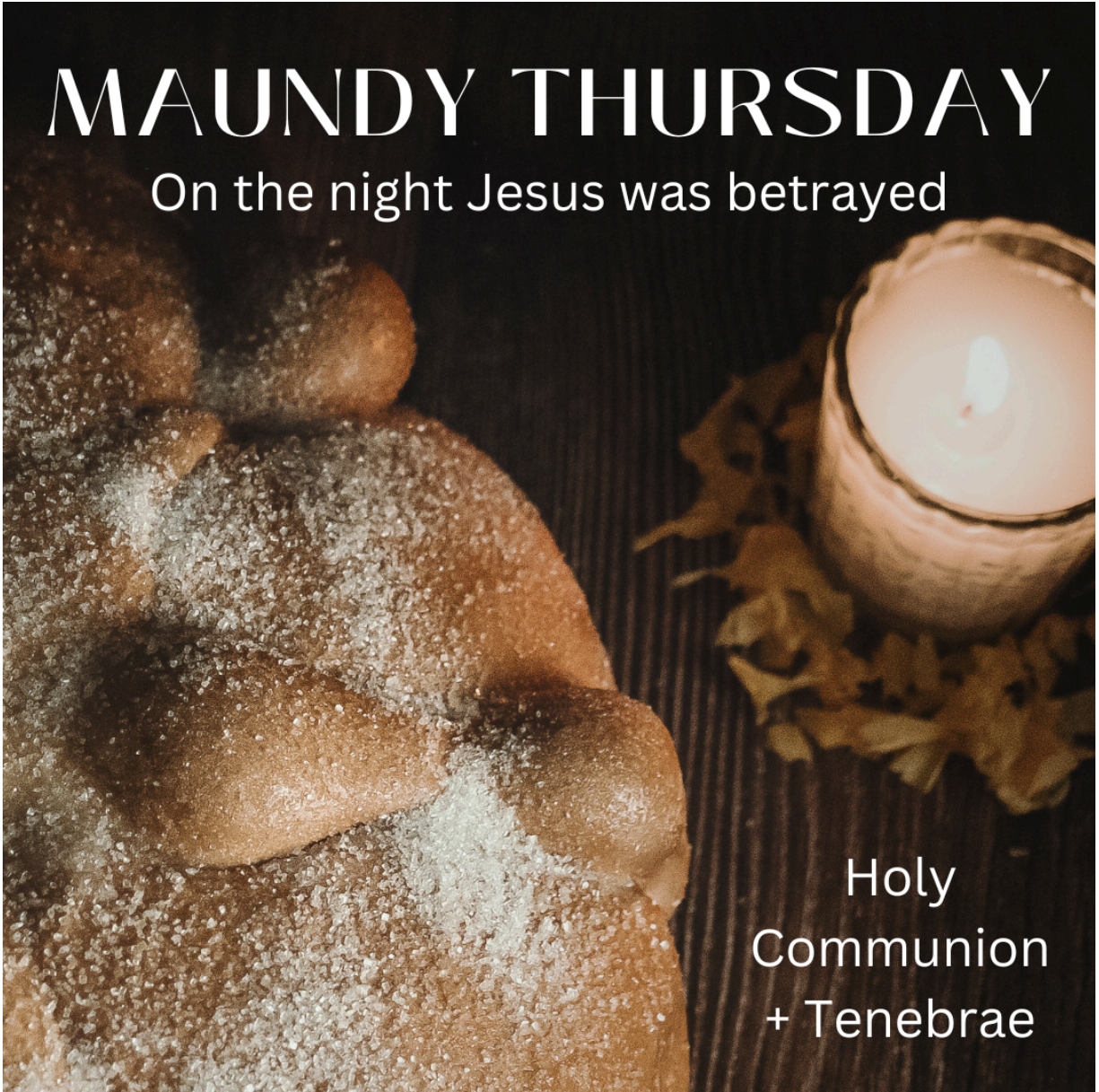


# MAUNDY THURSDAY

On the night Jesus was betrayed



Holy  
Communion  
+ Tenebrae

**First United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming, Just Peace,**  
**Immigrant Welcoming, Creation Justice Congregation**

**March 28, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.**

Welcome to worship! We especially welcome those visiting!

We invite you to fill out our [Virtual Visitor Card](#).

The congregation is invited to say the words in **bold**.

*Maundy Thursday marks Jesus' last night with the disciples, where he gave a new commandment: "that you love one another." The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum," meaning commandment. Tonight we commemorate that meal and observe the moments leading up to Jesus' death in the extinguishing of candles.*

**Prelude**                      *O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde groß*    J.S. Bach (1685-1750)  
   ("O man, bewail thy grievous sins")

**Welcome**

**Gathering Litany**

One: We gather tonight just as friends met with Jesus in the upper room long ago.

**Many: We come bearing the marks of a weary and fragmented world. We come with thirsty spirits.**

One: O God, in the breaking of the bread, remind us of your love.

**Many: In the cup of blessing, refresh us so that we may love one another.**

One: Draw us nearer to each other in mutuality and loving kindness.

**Many: Draw us closer to you in trust and thanks. As the night approaches, deepen in us a sense of your unwavering love for us in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**                      *Christ, Let Us Come with You*                      see page 8

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**God, we walk away, and you find us in our need. We deny our hearts, but continue to long for you. 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. We will lay you down, and you will rise again. We will hem you in; please don't stay put.**

*Moment for quiet reflection*

## Words of Assurance

There is nowhere we can go and nothing we can do to put us beyond the reach of Christ's love. Thanks be to God.

## Holy Communion

### Communion Hymn

*Eat This Bread*

#788

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

### Telling the Story

The Table - Matthew 26:26-29

### Blessing the Meal

### Sharing the Bread & Cup

*This is Christ's table, which means that everyone is welcome to take communion. Please come forward by the center or far diagonal aisles. We will place a piece of bread in your hand, which you may eat right away. Then we will hand you a cup of alcohol-free grape juice. You may drink the juice and put the empty cup in the bowl on the front pew before returning to your seats. Gluten-free rice cakes are available at the station to the right of the worship table. If you prefer to stay seated, a server will bring the elements to you.*

### Music During Communion *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

16th c. German

arr. Richard Wienhorst (1958)

## A Service of Tenebrae

### Scripture

The Desertion - Matthew 26:31-35

*The first candle is extinguished.*

**Scripture**

The Garden - Matthew 26:36-40, 45-46

*The second candle is extinguished.*

**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)

**Scripture**

The Arrest - Matthew 26:47-52, 55-57

*The third candle is extinguished.*

**Scripture**

The Denial - Matthew 26:69-75

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

**Hymn**

*Ah, Holy Jesus*  
(verses 1 and 4)

#218 (Herzliebster Jesu)

**V1:** Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,

that mortal judgment has on you descended?  
By foes derided by your own rejected, O most afflicted!  
**V4:** 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.

**Scripture**                      The Trial - Matthew 27:1-2, 11-14

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

**Scripture**                      The Cross - Matthew 27:27-37

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

**Reading**                      Selections from “Why? (The King of Love is Dead)”

**Scripture**                      The Tomb - Matthew 27:45-50, 57-60

*The seventh candle is extinguished.*

**Hymn**                              *What Wondrous Love Is This*        #223 (Wondrous Love)

**V1:** What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O  
my soul!

What wondrous love is this! that Christ should come in bliss to bear the heavy cross  
for my soul, for my soul to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

**V2:** To 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!

**V3:** And 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!

*There is no Benediction tonight. 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, Nalani McCutcheon, Kathy Sandberg, Judy Bond, Linda Larson, Leona Openshaw,

**Scripture Readers:** Leota Goodney, Marie Gery, Randy Hachfeld, Carol Rutz

**Digital Zoom Host:** Gary Wagenbach

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**First UCC Leadership & Staff**

**Ministers:** All the people

**Moderator:** Anne Meyer Ruppel

**Senior Minister:** Rev. Cindy Maddox

**Associate Minister:** Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

**Director of Music:** Chris Brunelle

**Organist:** Catherine Rodland

**Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator:** Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

**Office Manager & Director of Communications:** Kate Kvasnak

**Finance Manager:** Derek Melby

**Sexton:** Mark Fischer

**Audio Visual Technician:** Brynn Artley

**Please join us Easter Sunday!**

**Easter Sunday, March 31**

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

10:30 a.m. Worship (live-streamed)

**Monday, April 1**

Office Closed in Observance of Easter

**Notes, Sermon Doodles, Thoughts, Free-write, Questions, Prayers**



# Christ, let us come with you

