



Maundy Thursday

First United Methodist Church

April 9, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Reverend Jay D. Cooper
Senior Minister

Reverend Lucas S. Tribble
Associate Minister

Reverend Gillian L. Walters
Associate Minister

Reverend G. Charles Kendall
Associate Minister

Reverend Ben A. McDavid
Associate Minister

Dr. C. Jason Borders
Theologian in Residence

Dr. Karl K. Stegall
Pastor Emeritus

Bishop David W. Graves
Bishop Alabama-West Florida
Conference

Dr. James H. Seay
Director of Music

Reverend R. Allen Newton
District Superintendent
Montgomery-Prattville District

Dr. Joshua H. Coble
Organist/Assistant Director of Music

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m.
Liturgical Color: Purple

Gathering

Rev. Jay D. Cooper

Prelude

Choral, from Symphonie romane

Charles-Marie Widor

*Opening Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

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1. *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 caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

2. *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 caused the lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.*

3. *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.*

4. *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.*

Call to Worship

Rev. Lucas S. Tribble

Leader: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

People: Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Leader: In worship on this night, we testify to God's love shown perfectly in Christ.

People: We recommit ourselves to love one another as a community of faith.

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

People: Come, let us worship the Lord!

Invocation

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: O God, by the example of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, you taught us the greatness of true humility, and call us to watch with him in his passion. Give us grace to serve one another in all lowliness, and to enter into the fellowship of his suffering; in his name and for his sake. Amen.

Confession

Most merciful God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn**

Let Us Break Bread Together

1. Let us break bread together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

3. Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

4. Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy if you please. (if you please)

***Gospel Lesson**

John 13

Meditation

Rev. Gillian L. Walters

Love Feast

Be Present at Our Table, Lord

The musical score is written for voice and piano in the key of G major (one sharp). It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, Em, D, G, D, Em in the first system; C, G, D, Em, C, D7, G in the second system; and Am, G, D7, G in the third system. The lyrics are: "Be pres-ent at our ta-ble, Lord; be here and ev-ery- where a-dored; thy crea-tures bless, and grant that we may feast in par-a-dise with thee."

For an alternate arrangement see 1, 924, 965

Lift Up Your Hearts 843
Words: John Cennick, 1741, alt., P.D.
Music (GENEVAN 134/OLD HUNDREDTH 8.8.8.8): Louis Bourgeois, 1551, P.D.

Passing of the Bread

Closing Prayer

Rev. Jay D. Cooper

This night is our calling to love as Christ loved and serve in the name of Christ. It is our calling to remember, even in our darkest hour, who we are. We remember that Christ is always with us. And we remember that on this night, we were taught how to love. So give yourself for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Love in the name of the one who loved you until the end. It all begins and ends and begins again with Love. Amen.

The table has been set and prepared to remind us of Jesus and his last supper with his disciples. We invite you to take in the whole setting, remembering this sacred meal. In particular, we would like to point out and explain a few of the symbolic items located on or near the table:

Palm branches: Only a few days have passed since Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem with palm branches during his triumphal entry into the city.

Cheese and olives: It was a full meal that Jesus shared with his disciples, most likely the Jewish Passover meal. The food items remind us that Jesus ate and drank with his followers.

Basin and cloth: On this night, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, a sign of his love and humility.

Money bag: Scripture tells us that Judas had already made plans to betray Jesus for a few pieces of silver.

Thistles: This purple plant has been used as a symbol of the sinful nature of humans in our fallen state. It was this sin that Jesus bore in his death upon the cross.