



**Maundy Thursday Service
Foot Washing and Communion
April 6, 2023**

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

In the House of Trial

Lane

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

Opening Litany

Tina Wilmoth

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

On this day, Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

On this day, Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet.

On this day, Christ broke bread for his disciples, telling them to eat.

On this day, Christ poured out wine, telling them to drink of the cup of new life.

On this day, Christ gave his whole self, that we too might follow and find abundant life.

Opening Prayer

Tina Wilmoth

Holy God, source and sovereign, you put all power and authority into the hands of Christ—Christ, who washes our feet in humble service. Teach us to love one another as Christ has loved us, so that everyone will know that we are his disciples; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

UMH 581

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Prayer of Confession and Pardon

Pastor Debra

My sisters and brothers, Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

Sung Response*Lamb of God (Chorus Only)*

FWS 2113

*Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood,
my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.*

All Praying: 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.

Who is in the position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Congregation: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
All: Glory to God. Amen.

Ministry of Music*The Upper Room*

Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**Prayer for Illumination**

God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end and drank the cup of suffering prepared for him: may we who share his table watch with him through the night of suffering and be faithful. Amen.

Old Testament Reading*Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14*

Tina Wilmoth

The Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread

12 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its

closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ “This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Tina Wilmoth

The Institution of the Lord’s Supper

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for^[a] you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Gospel Reading

John 13:1-17, 32b-35

Tina Wilmoth

Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet

¹³ Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ² The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” ⁷ Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” ⁸ Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.” ¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do

as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

The New Commandment

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, ^[1] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another."

Sermon

Are You Scared of the Future?

Pastor Debra

Foot Washing: The Act of a Servant

Foot washing is a meaningful symbol of service and love for each other. "Washing the feet of the saints" (1 Tim. 5:10) is one way of representing Christ to each other in acts of hospitality, service, and love. While practices seldomly in most of today's Christian faith traditions, foot washing was practiced in the early centuries of Christianity. Tertullian, an early church father from Northern Africa mentioned the practice of foot washing as being a part of Christian in his writing, "De Corona." He wrote that foot washing was done with a basin "of water for the saints' feet" and a "linen towel" prior to the reception of the Eucharist.

Hymn

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

UMH 432

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Concerns and Prayers

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Words of Praise

Lord Jesus,

We are stunned at Your passion and Your commitment toward us.

You did not run from the darkness,

You did not hide from Your accusers,

You did not fade into safe obscurity.

You stepped with determination into the darkness,

Willingly giving Yourself to whip and fist, to wood and nails.

We praise You and thank You, Gracious Lord,

**for what You were prepared to endure to reconcile us with God.
We praise You and thank You, Gracious Lord,
for Your words of forgiveness, and the invitation to paradise.**

Forgive us that allow ourselves to become too familiar with this story.
That we take Your suffering too lightly, and receive Your grace too cheaply.

**As we watch with You, while the darkness encroaches,
Let us remember what this journey means,
and count again the cost of love. Amen.**

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

When the time arrived for Jesus to be lifted up;
When all had been prepared,
and He shared His last meal with His friends,
The Lord, took the loaf, blessed it, broke it,
and gave it to the disciples.

**When you eat the bread, remember Me.
This is my body broken for you.**

When the meal was finished,
The Lord took the cup, blessed it,
and gave it to the disciples.
When you drink the from this cup, remember Me.
This is my blood shed for you.

Now, as we gather at this table,
we eat bread; we share a common cup;
and we remember the One Who died to bring us life.

**And we will keep sharing this meal
until He returns. Amen.**

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All Praying

Tina Wilmoth

We thank You, Lord For giving us this sacred meal, for giving us Your Presence and Your life, and for reminding us of Your everlasting grace, which will be celebrated for all eternity. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Hymn

O How He Loves You and Me

FWS 2108

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Benediction

Pastor Debra

God in peace. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and for ever. Amen.

Stripping the Altar in Silence

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

*Lord, whose love through humble service bore
the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose
every gift that you impart.*

*Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love your Spirit kindles
Still to save and make us whole.*

*As we worship grant us vision,
Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving
Your abundant life to share.*

*Called by worship to your service,
Forth in your dear name we go
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, good will and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That your servants, Lord, in freedom
May your mercy know, and live.*

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

*Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain*

***Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.***

*Neighbors are rich and poor,
neighbors are black and white,
neighbors are near and far away. Refrain*

***Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.***

*These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain*

***Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.***

*Loving puts us on our knees,
serving as though we are slaves,
this is the way we should live with you. Refrain*

***Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.***

*Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. Refrain*

***Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.***

O How He Loves You and Me

*O how he loves you and me!
O how he loves you and me!
He gave his life. What more could he give?
O how he loves you;
O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!*

*Jesus to Calv'ry did go;
His love for sinners to show.
What he did there
Brought hope from despair.
O how he loves you;
O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!*