



Maundy (Holy) Thursday

April 14, 2022



Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor
Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director
Kitty Buchner, Guest Pianist

Centering Thoughts

On the night on which he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this to remember me."

—First Corinthians 11:23-24

Practice mercy and forgiveness throughout as a lesson that symbolizes the love shown through his crucifixion.

—Unarine Ramaru

Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires; but what foundation did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded an empire upon love; and at this hour millions... would die for Him.

—Napoleon Bonaparte

This is the center of the gospel—this is what the Garden of Gethsemane and Good Friday is all about—that God has done astonishing and costly things to draw us near.

—John Piper

When Good Friday comes, these are the moments in life when we feel there's no hope.

But then, Easter comes.

—Coretta Scott King

Welcome!

Prelude

Kitty Buchner

Palm Sunday Scripture: Mark 11:1-11

Invitation to Worship

Melinda Martin

People of God, eat and drink with Jesus and remember his Last Supper before his suffering and death.

We pray and remember Jesus praying in the garden before his arrest.

Watch and listen and remember Jesus' trial, suffering, and death.

We can do no less for the One who laid down his life for us.

Prayer

Pastor Lura

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.

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that sometimes our words, thoughts, and actions do not reflect the spirit of Christ. Forgive us for the times we have failed to love others as Christ loves us. Forgive us for the times we have sought glory, power, or money rather than following Jesus' example of service. Forgive us for the times we tried to fill our spiritual hunger with things other than Jesus, the Bread of Life. Forgive us for the times we have denied or ignored our Lord and Savior.

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

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Hymn: *Let Us Break Bread Together*

UMH #618 (vv. 1-3)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

The peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord our God.

Blessed are you, Sovereign of the Universe. You created the heavens and the earth and saw that it was good. From the earth you bring forth bread and create the fruit of the vine. You formed us in your own image, delivered us from captivity, made covenant with us, and set before us the way of life. Therefore, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven, we join in the song of unending praise, saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, time and again we turned aside from your way and abused your gifts, yet you gave us the crowning gift in Jesus Christ. Emptying himself, that our joy might be full, he fed the hungry, healed the afflicted, ate with the scorned and forgotten, washed his disciples' feet, and gave a holy meal as the pledge of his abiding presence.

On the night Jesus gave himself up for us, at table with those who would desert him and deny him, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this juice we may know the presence of the living Christ, be renewed as his body, transformed into his likeness, and faithfully serve him in the world. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Congregation

After the servers have received Holy Communion, those who are worshiping in-person are invited to come forward. Starting with the front rows, come up the center aisle, receive a piece of bread, and eat it. Take an individual cup of grape juice from the tray and move your mask long enough to drink the juice. Leave the empty cup in the basket and return to your seat by the side aisle.

Song: *The Old Rugged Cross*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter
& Eric McKirdy

Tenebrae—The Service of Shadows

First Reading: The Shadow of Betrayal	Mark 14:10-21	Pastor Lura
Second Reading: The Shadow of Desertion.	Mark 14:26-31	Melinda Martin
Third Reading: The Shadow of the Soul.	Mark 14:32-42	Kirke Campbell
Fourth Reading: The Shadow of the Arrest.	Mark 14:43-50	Pastor Lura
Fifth Reading: The Shadow of Denial.	Mark 14:66-72	Melinda Martin
Sixth Reading: The Shadow of Condemnation . . .	Mark 15:1-15	Kirke Campbell
Final Reading: The Shadow of the Cross.	Mark 15:25-39	Pastor Lura

Hymn: *Were You There*

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Closing Blessing

The One who suffered and died is with you. Walk with Christ. Wait with Christ. Live with Christ. Amen.

Postlude: *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus*