



MAUNDY THURSDAY

LOVE

ONE ANOTHER

AS I

HAVE LOVED

YOU.

JOHN 13:34

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Amherst, New Hampshire

April 14, 2022

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

Lenten Meditation

Robert J. Powell

GATHERING WORDS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are Jesus' disciples,
following him even as he moves toward the cross.

**Many: Even as he kneels to wash the dust from the feet of his friends.
Even as he breaks bread and pours the cup one last time.**

One: We are Jesus' disciples,
longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

**Many: Even as betrayers loom.
Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ press in around us.**

One: We are Jesus' disciples,
struggling to love others even as Jesus loves us.

**Many: Even as he broke bread with those who would abandon him.
Even as he forgave those who turned against him.**

One: We are Jesus' disciples,
loving mercy, acting justly, walking humbly in his footsteps

**Many: We are Jesus' disciples,
gathered here to worship our God:
Our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. Amen.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

LITANY OF CONFESSION and WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Jesus arrested, judged, found guilty,
and condemned to die, is held captive overnight.

**Many: If I were arrested and held this night
what would I be found guilty of?**

One: That I made friends with people
irrespective of their color, creed, or class...

**Many: That I shared my bread with the poor ...
That my words and actions brought healing and forgiveness...**

One: That I sought justice and didn't count the cost...
That I sought the truth and then spoke of it...

**Many: That I recognized my neighbor
and loved them as my very self...**

One: That I accepted hospitality at many different tables...
That I was changed by the lives and wisdom of others...

**Many: That I met God along the way
in the healing and forgiveness I received.**

**All: You call us out of brokenness, O God,
to mend and remake your creation.
Grant us the courage to stay
with all those who are held captive this night...**

Silent prayer...

One: In the name of Jesus who is good news for us all. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-9, 12-15, 34-35

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

MAUNDY THURSDAY MESSAGE

ANTHEM

Pie Jesus from The Requiem
Sara Phelps, soprano
Michael Havay, organ

Gabriel Faure

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We welcome all people to join in receiving this sacrament. The bread and juice will be passed in the pews. The bread is gluten, egg, and dairy free.

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD, POURING OF THE CUP

CONSECRATING PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Drop, Drop, Slow Tears

Orlando Gibbons/
Robert Powell

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Kind and gentle Jesus, we give you thanks for this bread and cup, this place and time. When the night is harsh and bitter, may we still be found walking beside you. As you challenge both power and pride, help us to contemplate your courageous acts. Bring us, despite our resistance, to the foot of the cross. And there may we learn to be merciful, in your name. Amen.

HYMN (seated)

What Wondrous Love Is This

No. 85

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

Tenebrae is the Latin word for “darkness” and has come to be the traditional name of the service of extinguishing of the lights in commemoration of the final events in Jesus’ life. During the service of Tenebrae, the sanctuary is gradually darkened. After each reading, a candle is extinguished. Finally, the church is left in nearly total darkness as the Christ candle is extinguished to mark the death of Christ.

I. The Shadow of Betrayal – Matthew 26:20-25

II. The Shadow of Desertion – Matthew 26:31-35

ORGAN MEDITATION *Alone Thou Goest Forth* William Tan'sur/Charity Boyles

III. The Agony of Soul – Luke 22:39-44

IV. The Unshared Vigil – Mark 14:32-41

ORGAN MEDITATION *In the Garden* Richard Wagner/Thomas Chesterton

V. The Betrayal – Mark 14:43-49

VI. The Shadow of Accusation – Matthew 26:57, 59-66

ORGAN MEDITATION *Not My Will, But Thine* Gerald Peterson

VII. Before Pilate – Mark 15:1-15

VIII. The Shadow of the Cross – Mark 15:16-20

SOLO *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?* Traditional
Sara Phelps, soprano

THE DARKNESS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SILENT DISPERSAL OF THE DISCIPLES

Once the pastors have withdrawn, all are encouraged to leave in silence.

April 14, 2022 Maundy Thursday

PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist