



First Presbyterian Church of York
Maundy Thursday Service
March 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin term, Mandatum Novum, or 'A New Commandment.' On this night The Church remembers the Passover Jesus kept with his disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem, where He instituted his memoriam, The Lord's Supper. At this supper Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, namely, "...love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34) Hence, Maundy Thursday.

PRELUDE

"O Mensch Bewein from Orgelbuchlein"

Bach

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty God, you put all power and authority into the hands of 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 Teacher and Lord, we pray. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: What shall we offer for all God's goodness to us?

People: Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

***HYMN No. 316**

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

*Please stand if able

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and Merciful God, you gave us a new commandment to love one another. Forgive us for taking a simple commandment and making it so complicated. Forgive us for the conditions we place, the excuses we offer, and the ways we forget to love one another as you have loved us. Cleanse us again and again from the dust of our prejudice and the grime of our self-concern; that we may faithfully follow Jesus wherever he may lead. Hear us as we offer our confession in silence.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

KYRIE

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Brownell

(The organ will play through it the first time, and the congregation is invited to join in the second and third time.)



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you of all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your Word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 26:26-30

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” ³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

“Living in Freedom with God”

Nathan Gott

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Stewardship is still a part of what we do about what we believe. Please mail your offering by check to the church, or send it electronically via the “Give Now” button at the top of our homepage.

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy...(Leader continues)...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: 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.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty...(Leader continues)...Praise to you, Lord Jesus

People: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

THE LORD’S PRAYER IN UNISON

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UNISON CLOSING PRAYER

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine in which we share his body broken and blood poured out for us and for the world. May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN** No. 209, vs. 1-3; 5 “My Song Is Love Unknown”

THE STRIPPING OF THE TABLE

(The Table represents Christ, and the removal of the vessels is symbolic of the humiliation of Christ. Scripture is read as each item is removed and then carried out of the Sanctuary.)

The Removal of the Bread and Wine – Psalm 88:1-5

The Removal of the Candles – Psalm 88:6-10

The Removal of the Paraments – Psalm 88:11-14

THE ENTRANCE OF THE CROWN OF THORNS

(A crown of thorns is brought in and placed on the table. There is a time of silent meditation.)

SOLO

“What Wondrous Love is This?”

Jim Scofield

DISMISSAL IN SILENCE