



Trinity United Church of Christ

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TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 28, 2024

7:00pm

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion

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Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!
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Congregational responses in bold print.

PRELUDE MUSIC – “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” – J. S. Bach³

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We worship this evening to recall the story of the night
in which Jesus Christ was betrayed.

Are you prepared to come to the table of Jesus Christ,
whose life was poured out for you?

By the Grace of God, we are.

Are you able to watch with Jesus at prayer in the garden,
indeed, to struggle yourselves to be in unity with God’s will?

By the Grace of God, we are.

Will you follow Jesus even into the night of betrayal?

By the Grace of God, we are.

Then let us praise God, even in this hour of darkness!

**God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is
your name to be praised in all the earth!**

***PRAYER (Unison)**

**We come before you, O God, in the shadow of the cross, grateful for your love for us,
and the mother’s love of her son and our savior, Jesus. As you came to us in Christ
to win our love and obedience, reveal yourself among us still. Give us courage to
follow Jesus over rocky hills where we carry our crosses and green valley’s
where you restore our souls. For we pray in the name of the shepherd
whose life was laid down for the sheep. Amen.**

***HYMN #219 “Journey to Gethsemane”**

SCRIPTURE

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Just before the Passover Feast, Jesus knew that the time had come to leave this world to go to the Father. Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end.

It was supertime. The Devil by now had Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, firmly in his grip, all set for the betrayal.

Jesus knew that the Father had put him in complete charge of everything that he came from God and was on his way back to God.

So he got up from the supper table, set aside his robe, and put on an apron.

Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with his apron. When he got to Simon Peter, Peter said, “Master, you wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You don’t understand now what I’m doing, but it will be clear enough to you later.”

Peter persisted, “You’re not going to wash my feet...ever!” Jesus said, “If I don’t wash you, you can’t be part of what I’m doing.”

“Master!” said Peter. “Not only my feet, then. Wash my hands! Wash my head!” Jesus said, “If you’ve had a bath in the morning, you only need your feet washed now and you’re clean from head to toe. My concern, you understand, is holiness, not hygiene.

So now you’re clean. But not everyone of you.” After he had finished washing their feet, he took his robe, put it back on, and went back to his place at the table.

Then he said, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You address me as ‘Teacher’ and ‘Master’, and rightly so. That is what I am. So if I, the Master and Teacher, wash your feet, you must now wash each other’s feet. I’ve laid down a pattern for you.

What I’ve done, you do. I’m only pointing out the obvious. A servant is not ranked above his master; an employee doesn’t give orders to the employer.

If you understand what I’m telling you, act like it, and live a blessed life.

“Now the Son of Man is seen for who he is, and God seen for who he is in him.

The moment God is seen in him, God’s glory will be on display.

In glorifying him, he himself is glorified...glory all around!

“Children, I am with you for only a short time longer. You are going to look high and low for me. But just as I told the Jews, I’m telling you: ‘Where I go, you are not able to come.’”

“Let me give you a new command: Love one another.

In the same way I loved you, you love one another.

This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples, when they see the love you have for each other.

HYMN #435 "Each Winter as the Year Grows Older"

THE UPPER ROOM

(Luke 22:7-13)

On the first day of Unleavened Bread,
when the Passover Lamb is sacrificed, the disciples said to Jesus,
"Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"
So Jesus sent two of the disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city; and a man carrying a jar of
water will meet you. Follow him; and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house,
The Teacher asks, 'Where is my guest room where I may eat with my disciples?'
He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."
**The disciples set out and went to the city. They found everything as
Jesus had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

When they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,
"Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me; one who is eating with me."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**O Christ, in your presence we discover who we are. You wash our feet, and we learn
how reluctant we are to serve one another. Even as you prepare to give yourself for
the sake of the world, we are still seeking promotions and possessions. Our love scarcely
suffices to fulfill the requirements of good manners, and yet you invite us to eat with
you at your table. Forgive us, and help us to value your presence more dearly,
that we may find this meal to be a celebration of joy. Amen.**

(Moment for Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

INVITATION (Unison)

**O God, we come to this table at the invitation of Jesus Christ to share a sacred meal.
It is a gracious host, indeed, who shares not only bread and cup, but also life and being.
In this time of communion with you, with one another, with persons of faith throughout
the earth and throughout the ages, help us to understand that this meal provides us
with a taste of your eternal reign. Lead us in your paths of service, and nourish us
with your presence. In the name of our host, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

On this night, we gather as the Hebrew people gathered in exile to share the lamb, and celebrate your passing over them in mercy. On this night, we come amazed and humbled to have the dust of our souls washed by the servant Messiah.

We pause in our hurried lives to ask:

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul,
that caused Christ to lay aside his life for my soul?**

We pass on tonight to children and strangers what we have received from you, Lord Jesus: Who on the night you left us took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to the disciples, saying, "Do this in remembrance of me." Who took the cup after supper and said, "This is my life for you, share in newness and remember me." And so we remember:

**How you came to us, poor and vulnerable,
how you taught us by story and example,
how you fed us on the hillside and seashore.**

As we remember you, pour out yourself again to us and by your Holy Spirit make us living remembrances of your great love and life. Fill us with a new understanding of love and among all your children that others may see our witness and draw close to you.

**Merciful Deliverer, Humble Servant, and Love among us,
Holy Trinity, we give you praise and thanks. Amen.**

CONSECRATION OF ELEMENTS

O God, we are people who need you. We have these common table elements of bread and cup. By your grace, bless us with a renewed sense of your presence. And bless this bread and cup to its holy purpose. On Christ we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please come forward as the Usher directs you up the center aisle. We will form a semi-circle around the Communion Table. You will be individually served the bread first and then the cup. After we commune, the pastor will offer a benediction and you will leave the chancel area placing your cups in the bowl provided, then return to your seat.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

**Lord, Jesus, we recall how you met with your disciples in the upper room
and blessed bread and cup as the memorial of your body and blood. We thank you
for this sacrament of our redemption, and for all that it reveals to us of your love;
and we pray that whenever we meet at the table to obey your command,
"Do this in remembrance of me," we may know your risen presence in our midst,
and feed upon you, the true bread from heaven. Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

THURSDAY 9 PM (SECOND WATCH OF THE NIGHT)

THE GARDEN

DARKNESS OF BETRAYAL AND DESERTION (Mark 14:26-50)

The Passover meal concluded late in the evening, but many feasters returned to the streets of Jerusalem to continue celebrating. Others went to the temple mount where they waited for the gates to reopen at midnight so that they might spend the rest of the night in worship and prayer. But Jesus led his disciples outside the city to the Mount of Olives... a place he frequented during this ministry.

He found a quiet spot where he could pray before his appointed time.

Jesus said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your son, that your son may glorify You.

For You granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life; that thy may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work that you gave me to do.

And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory
I had with you before the world began.

Jesus interceded for himself, for his disciples, and all believers. He asked Peter, James and John to keep watch and pray. But they were drowsy from the meal they had just enjoyed. The burden of the coming trial weighed upon Jesus, pressing drops of sweat and blood from his pores. As Jesus entreated his disciples a third time to watch and pray, an armed crowd approached to arrest him.

And Jesus said, "Are you still sleeping and resting?" Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!

Judas, one of the twelve arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard. So when Jesus came, Judas when up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested Jesus. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

All of them deserted him and fled.

FRIDAY 9AM (THIRD HOUR)

THE CRUCIFIXION

DARKNESS OF DENIAL (Luke 23:13-34)

They took Jesus to the high priest and the whole council was looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death... but they found none. They asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed one?" And Jesus said, "I am." They bound Jesus and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked the people if they wanted him to release Jesus or Barabbas.

They wanted Barabbas released and they shouted for Jesus to be crucified.

Pilate even asked a second time but they again shouted for Jesus to be crucified.

So Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified in order to satisfy the crowd.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace and they called together to whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passerby, who was coming from the country to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene.

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of the skull) and they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." In his agony, he called out to God: "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing."

HYMN #223 **"What Wondrous Love Is This"**

FRIDAY NOON (SIXTH HOUR)

DARKNESS

DARKNESS OF ACCUSATION (Mark 15:25-36)

It was now about the sixth hour and darkness came over the whole land.

Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads.

The rulers even sneered at him: "Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe him. Let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen one."

Jesus said, "I thirst."

The soldiers came and mocked him. They offered him wine and vinegar and said, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself."

And Jesus cried out, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani."

Surely he has born our grief's and carried our sorrows;

Yet we esteem him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

HYMN #226 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (v1)

FRIDAY 3PM (NINTH HOUR)

DEATH

DARKNESS OF CRUCIFIXION (Luke 23:44-46)

Around the ninth hour, 3PM Jesus called out in a loud voice...
committing his spirit into the Father’s hands before breathing his last.

He did not slip away on the cross, but filled his lungs with air
and declared his mission completed.

“Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit. It is accomplished!”

KYRIE:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us

EXTINGUISH CHRIST CANDLE

HYMN #226 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (vs 2 and 3)

TOLLING OF THE BELL (33 Times)

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Were You There”

arr. Brian L. Hanson

Senior Choir

Lucy Greene, Cello

SILENT RESSESSIONAL

James Montgomery, 1820; alt.

1. Jour-ney to Geth-se-ma-ne,
go and feel the tempt-er's power;
Your Re-deem-er's con-flict see,
watch the an-guish of this hour;
Do not hide or turn a-way:
learn from Je-sus how to pray.
2. Fol-low then to Pi-late's hall,
view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
Crowned with thorns and mocked by all,
faith-ful-ly this pain sus-tained;
Great-er still than shame or loss,
Je-sus now must face the cross.
3. Cal-vary's mourn-ful moun-tain climb,
see the Sav-ior lift-ed high,
Mark the mir-a-cle of time,
God's own Child is sac-ri-ficed;
"It is fin-ished!" Je-sus cries:
learn from Je-sus how to die.
4. Ear-ly has-ten to the tomb,
hear the cry of great sur-prise;
Then the si-lence in the room,
Je-sus there no long-er lies:
Christ is ris-en! Re-al-ize
that with Christ we, too, may rise.

John 18:1–20:18

William Gay, 1969; alt.

1. Each win-ter as the year grows old-er,
we all grow old-er too.
The chill sets in a lit-tle cold-er;
the ver-i-ties I knew
seem shak-en and un-true.
2. When race and class cry out for trea-son,
when si-rens call for war,
They o-ver-shout the voice of rea-son,
and scream till we ig-nore
all we held dear be-fore.
3. But I be-lieve be-yond be-liev-ing,
that life can spring from death;
That growth can flow-er from our griev-ing;
that we can catch our breath
and turn trans-fixed by faith.
4. So e-ven as the sun is turn-ing
to jour-ney to the north,
The liv-ing flame, in se-cret burn-ing,
can kin-dle on the earth,
and bring God's love to birth.
5. O Child of ec-sta-sy and sor-rows,
O Child of peace and pain,
Bright-en to-day's world by to-mor-row's,
re-new our lives a-gain;
Christ Je-sus, come and reign!

What Wondrous Love Is This

19th century, United States; alt.

First published in Mercer's *Cluster*, 1836

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!
 What won-drous love is this, O my soul!
 What won-drous love is this! that Christ should come in bliss
 to bear the heav-y cross for my soul, for my soul,
 to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!

2. 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 mil-lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
 while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.

3. 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 joy-ful be,
 and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

John 19:17; Rev. 5:13

Medieval Latin, attrib. to Bernard of Clairvaux (1091–1153)

German paraphr. by Paul Gerhardt, 1656

Transl. James W. Alexander, 1830; alt.

1. O sa-cred Head, now wound-ed,
with grief and shame weighed down,
Now scorn-ful-ly sur-round-ed
with thorns, your on-ly crown,
How pale you are with an-guish,
with sore a-buse and scorn!
How does your vis-age lan-guish
which once was bright as morn!
2. What you, dear Sav-ior, suf-fered
was all for sin-ners' gain;
Mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion,
but yours the dead-ly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Sav-ior,
for I de-serve your place;
Look on me with your fa-vor,
O grant to me your grace.
3. What lan-guage shall I bor-row
to thank you, dear-est friend;
For this your dy-ing sor-row,
your pit-y with-out end?
May I be yours for-ev-er;
and though my days be few,
O Sav-ior, let me nev-er
out-live my love for you!

Isa. 53; John 19:1–3

Anthem - *Were You There?* Words: African-American spiritual.
Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Brian L. Hanson © 2017
Choristers Guild.

Hymns - *Journey to Gethsemane*. Words: © 1993 The Pilgrim
Press. Music: REDHEAD NO. 76, Richard Redhead (1853).

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older. Words: William Gay ©
1971 The Pilgrim Press. Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth
Gay © 1969 United Church Press.

What Wondrous Love Is This. Words: 19th century American.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE © 1993 The Pilgrim Press.

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Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Frederick Young	Pastor
Grace Winakor	Seminary Student
John McKay	Choir Director
Sara Shank	Organist
Terry Krietz	Usher
Lenore O'Rourke	Greeter
Bonnie Smith	Acolyte
Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young,	Tech Team
Luke Milhimes, Russell Bailey, Carl Barrick,	
Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Garrison Redding,	
Mike Chase, Terry Krietz	