

# MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
APRIL 6, 2023



# The Gathering of God's People

## **Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship**

"My Heart Is Filled with Longing"

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

## **Welcome**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: I welcome you ... and the feeling of incompleteness.

## **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

**People: Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.**

Leader: Beloved people of God ... from sin and death forever.

**People: This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to wash the disciples' feet, showing us how to love and serve one another.**

Leader: This is the day ... abundant life and grace for all.

## **\*Opening Prayer**

### **\*Hymn**

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

#203

## **The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

### **\*Call to Confession**

#### **\*Prayer of Confession** *(read in unison)*

**Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command.**

**In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: The mercy of the Lord ... we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**\*Response Hymn**

“Lord, Have Mercy”

#551

## **Ministry of the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Scripture Reading**

Exodus 12:1-14

**Choir Anthem**

“Bread of the World”

Richard Shephard, 1998

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,  
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed,  
By whom the words of life were spoken,  
And in whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,  
Look on the tears by sinners shed;  
And be thy feast to us the token,  
That by thy grace our souls are fed.

**Second Scripture Reading**

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Dr. Mark A. Johnson

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

*(We will be receiving communion by using the cups that you will pick up as you enter the sanctuary. The communion wafer is in the package on top of the cup. Gluten-free bread may be found on the communion table.)*

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

**\*Hymn of Invitation**

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

#202

**The Great Prayer of 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 ... 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Leader:** You are holy ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**People:** Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.  
**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

**Leader:** Gracious God ... now and forever. 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 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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

## **Communion of the People**

## **Prayer after Communion**

**God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of our Savior. As you have nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim your great love for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **The Sending of God's People**

**\*Closing Hymn** "Go to Dark Gethsemane" (verses 1-3) #220

**Stripping of the Church**

Psalm 22

**Silent Recessional**

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**Pastors:** Dr. Mark A. Johnson  
Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood  
Steve Watters

**Music Director:** Thomas Lloyd  
**Organist:** Carol Welk