

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING

April 9, 2009

7:00 p.m.

O God, our Father, at Easter time we remember the great hope of eternal life which you have set before us, and we feel within our hearts the longings for goodness and for You. Grant that nothing may hinder the hope of eternal life from coming true, and the desire for goodness and for You to be realized. As we celebrate that first Holy Communion this night, may we truly remember...and give thanks.

The asterisk () designates when the congregation will please stand.
Worshippers who find standing difficult are invited to remain seated.*

Bold print is read or sung by the congregation.

Worshippers are encouraged to turn off their cell phones while they are in the sanctuary.

THE PRELUDE

"What Wondrous Love is This"

setting by Anna Laura Page

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Liturgist: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

All: **Christ has prepared a feast of love.**

*THE HYMN

"What Wondrous Love is This"

Hymn 292

THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

Pastor: My sisters and brothers, Christ shows us His love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

THE PRAYER OF GENERAL CONFESSION

All: **Most merciful God, we your church, confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ's. Where we have failed to love one another as He loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to Him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied Him, forgive us; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Who is in position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the Good News: In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

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

THE ANTHEM

"Fall Slow Tears"

Altar Choir
Ruth Elaine Schram

*THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

Liturgist: This the Word of our Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

John 13:1-17

THE MEDITATION

Pastor Chris Roberts

FOOTWASHING

On this night we commemorate the supper Jesus shared with His disciples before His crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. It is traditional on this night in many churches to include a service of footwashing as part of the service. Footwashing is a powerful symbolic response to the Word, dramatizing the servanthood of Jesus, both on the night before His death and in His continuing presence in our midst. We invite you to come forward and participate as The Spirit directs you. The decision to participate is yours to make. Should you participate, when directed come forward and be seated in one of the chairs at the front. The service will be done with care and discretion. It is encouraged that you participate and fully experience the love, grace and sense of community that is expressed in this special time of worship. If you do not participate, you are encouraged to remain in an attitude of prayer and praise as you continue to reflect on the significance of this day in the life of Jesus and in our life of faith today.

*HYMNS OF RELECTION (Sung during the footwashing service)

"Have Thine Own Way Lord"

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Hymn 382

Hymn 348

Hymn 349

RESPONDING TO GOD IN OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

*Let us joyfully give to God our prayers, presence, service, and financial support.
The offering this evening will go towards our Missions ministries.*

The Musical Offering

"Lamb of God"

The Chorus and Presentation of the Gifts

setting by Mark Hayes

**Create in me a clean heart, O God
and renew a right spirit within me**

**Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation
and uphold me with your Spirit free
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal Page 13

THE GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

The congregation is invited to approach the altar to receive the elements through the center aisle. The ushers will direct you as to when you may come. All who desire to participate are invited to come, kneel or stand at the altar, and receive the elements of Holy Communion by intinction (you may receive a piece of the broken bread and dip it into the cup). You may remain in an attitude of prayer and meditation at the altar as long as you desire. Please return to your pew by the side aisles. Should you desire, the communion elements will be made available for you to partake in your pew.

*THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

"I Surrender All"

setting by Kennon D. Renfrow



United Methodist Church

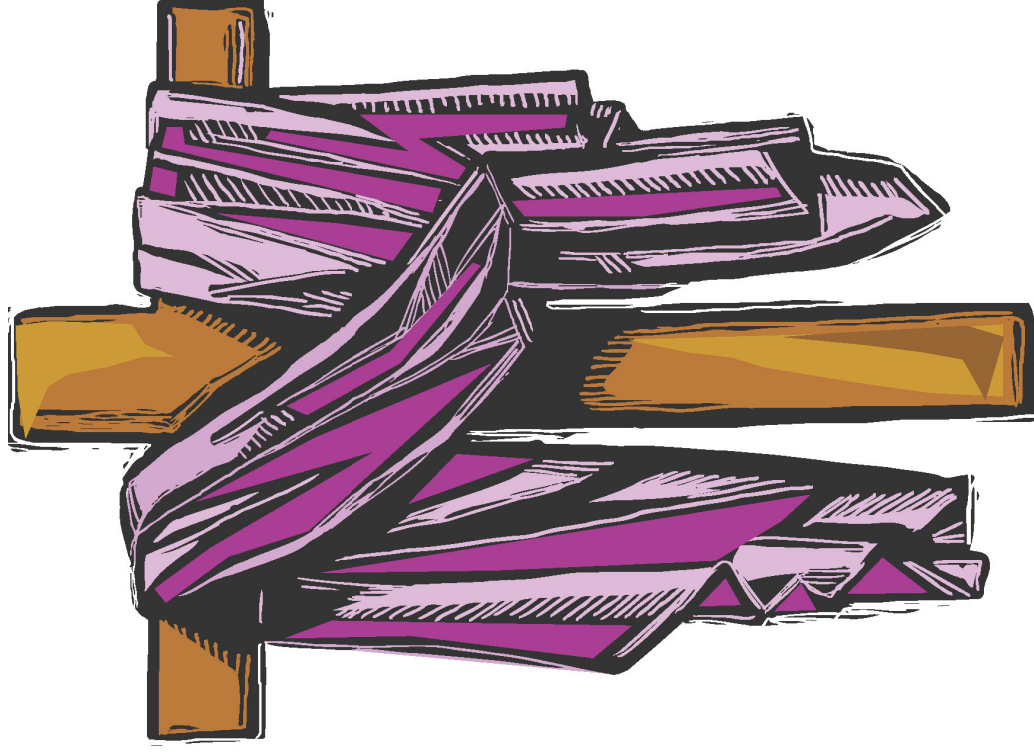
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Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 9, 2009

7:00 pm