

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

9 April 2020 7pm

Opening Sentences

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another. (John 13:34)

Beloved people of God:

This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered himself to those who would kill him, setting us free from sin and death forever.

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.

This is the day when Christ, the Bread of Heaven, shared a holy meal with his followers, offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

Prayer

O God, your love is embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal. Wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in the hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Solo Pat Rowlett

Confession and Pardon

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were still sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Silent Confession

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.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

Prayer of Illumination

Eternal God, by your Word and Spirit, you have given us a new commandment: to love and serve one another in Jesus' name. Let the good news of your liberating love be sealed in our hearts and shown in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lesson John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Eddie Bellis

Lord's Supper

Invitation

The Lord said to Moses:
This shall be a day of remembrance for you,
you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord.

Paul says to the Church:
As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Breaking and Sharing of Bread

Pouring and Sharing of Cup

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.

There is no benediction – the service continues tomorrow on Good Friday at noon.