

**Maundy Thursday**  
*Online Worship Service*  
by **United Church of Christ Churches**  
within the **Conrad Weiser Area Community**

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ**  
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The **LORD JESUS** on  
the night when he  
**WAS BETRAYED**  
took a loaf of bread ...

1 Corinthians 11:23, NRSV



Thursday, April 1, 2021  
*6:30pm*

# Order of Worship for Maundy Thursday

**NOTE:**

The following service begins with a prayer before your supper in your home this evening. We then will have the Holy Communion with Pastor Ben Motz in his home, as we remember Jesus instituting the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. As part of the communion service, we will hear the Gospel from Lily & Laurie in their home. Pastor Bob Masenheimer will be providing music from Phoebe-Berks. The service will then conclude with Tenebrae with Pastor Mary Etta Mest in the sanctuary of Zion UCC.

**PRAYER FOR YOUR EVENING MEAL IN YOUR INDIVIDUAL HOMES TONIGHT**

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gathered in his disciples for a Last Supper in an upper room, and gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all. We pray for your blessing upon the food which we are about to partake, upon us as we gather, and upon the world this night. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

*Your Evening Meal at Home*



**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** ®

*{A prayer offered individually, to help center your hearts and minds in preparation of worship}*

*Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal, your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the primacy of service. Grant that by the power of our Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

*"Go to Dark Gethsemane"*

vs 1, 2, & 3

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**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION**

**Leader:** In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen.

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**Virtual Worship Service**


Online: [Live Stream](#) at [www.sprucc.org](http://www.sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen on [St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel](#) Later  
[Phone Stream](#) at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later  
[Zoom](#): Meeting ID: 889 4662 4289; Passcode: 579687 (or call 1-301-715-8592) - Live Only  
*If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or [Office@sprucc.org](mailto:Office@sprucc.org)*

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JAMES MONTGOMERY, 1820  
*Rather slowly*

7. 7. 7. 7. 7.



REDHEAD 76 (AJALON)  
RICHARD REDHEAD, 1853




1. Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, Ye that feel the tempt - er's power;  
2. Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of life ar - raign'd;  
3. Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing at His feet,  
4. Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb, Where they laid His breath - less clay;

Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see, Watch with Him one bit - ter hour;  
O the worm - wood and the gall, O the pangs His soul sus - tained!  
Mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own Sac - ri - fice com - plete;  
All is sol - i - tude and gloom, — Who hath tak - en Him a - way?

Turn not from His griefs a - way, Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - fer - ing, shame, or loss; Learn of Him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear Him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes! Sav - iour, teach us so to rise. A - MEN.



## WORDS OF WELCOME

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

People: **The light shines in the deepest night,  
and the night cannot overcome it.**

Leader: Stay with us now, for it is evening,

People: **and the day is almost over.**

Leader: Let your light disperse the shadows

People: **and shine within us here.**

## OPENING SENTENCE

Leader: O God, come to my aid.

People: **Hear my voice when I cry to you.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION <sup>④</sup> (Leader)

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

## CONFESSION OF SIN <sup>④</sup> (Unison)

**Almighty and most merciful God our Heavenly Father, we humble ourselves before thee, under a deep sense of our unworthiness and guilt. We have grievously sinned against thee, in thought, in word, and in deed. We have come short of thy glory, we have broken thy commandments, and turned aside every one of us from the way of life. Yet now, O most merciful Father, hear us when we call upon thee with penitent hearts, and for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us. Pardon our sins; take away our guilt; and grant us thy peace. Purify us, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, from all inward uncleanness, and make us able and willing to serve thee in newness of life, to the glory of thy Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON <sup>④</sup> (Leader)

Hear now the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all that repent and believe: As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their way and live. For God so loved the world, that he gave us his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Unto as many of you, therefore, beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, who truly repent of your sins, and believe in the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ, with full purpose of new obedience, I announce and declare, by the authority and in the Name of Christ, that our sins are forgiven, according to his promise in the Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## GOSPEL LESSON

“A New Commandment”

[John 13:1a, 4-5, 12-17, 31b-35](#)

# Holy Communion

## INVITATION <sup>①④</sup>

Leader: Dearly beloved in the Lord: Our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ instituted the Holy Communion of his Body and Blood, that it might be the abiding memorial of his atoning death; the seal of his perpetual presence in the Church through the Holy Spirit; the mystical representation of the sacrifice of himself on the cross; the pledge of his undying love for his people; and the bond of his living union and fellowship with them to the end of time.

**ALL: The celebration of the Lord's Supper has ever been regarded by the Church as the innermost sanctuary of the whole Christian worship. What we do here is not merely with signs, but with the realities these signs represent. We seek to approach the Lord's Table rightly, striving to be devout and repentant, with a believing mind.**

Leader: We cordially invite to partake of this Sacrament all who are truly grieved and penitent for their sins, who look to the Lord Jesus Christ for righteousness and salvation, who abide in the fellowship of his Church, and who desire to possess his Spirit and walk in his ways. To all such the compassionate Redeemer himself says: Come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION <sup>①⑩</sup> (Leader)

Lord, we remember that on the Thursday night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples in an upper room for the feast of Passover. At the table, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION <sup>①</sup> (Ordained Minister)

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, remembering Christ's suffering and death, anticipating Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory.

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, both here at this table and at the tables in the homes of those who are gathered in spirit as the church, and bless us in our homes tonight that as we receive this sacrament, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united in communion with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. We pray in the name of the one who taught us to pray....

## LORD'S PRAYER (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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE RAISING OF THE CUP

## SHARING AND CONSUMING THE ELEMENTS

*{You are invited to eat the bread and drink the wine/juice with one another.}*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING<sup>®</sup> (Leader)

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Saviour's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your holy Christian church may be a source of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN

"On a Hill Far Way"  
(The Old Rugged Cross)

vs 1 & 2

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327 The Old Rugged Cross

*He humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross. Philippians 2:6*

1. On a hill far a-way stood an old rug-ged cross, The em-blem of  
2. O the old rug-ged cross, so de-spised by the world, Has a won-drous at-  
3. In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di-vine, A won-drous  
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev-er be true; Its shame and re-

suf-f'ring and shame; And I love that old cross, where the dear-est and best  
trac-tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo-ry a-bove  
beau-ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je-sus suf-f'ered and died  
proach glad-ly bear. Then He'll call me some-day to my home far a-way.

*Refrain*

For a world of lost sin-ners was slain. So I'll clus-ter in the old rug-ged  
To bear it to dark Cal-va-ry. cross, the  
To par-don and sanc-ti-fy me.  
Where His glo-ry for-ev-er I'll share.

cross, old rug-ged cross, Till my tro-phies at last I lay down. I will cling to the

old rug-ged cross, And ex-change it some-day for a crown.  
cross, the old rug-ged cross,

TEXT: George Bennard  
MUSIC: George Bennard

OLD RUGGED CROSS  
Irregular meter

# Tenebrae

*Christ Candle Lit*

*12 Candles Lit*

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE:

[Isaiah 53:4-6](#) (Contemporary English Version - CEV)

*“Ah, Holy Jesus”* verse 1 - organ and solo

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## EPISTLE:

[Hebrews 10:16-18](#) (Contemporary English Version - CEV)

*“Ah, Holy Jesus”* verse 3 - organ and solo

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## SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

**The First Candle:** [John 18:1-11](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Second Candle:** [John 18:12-14](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Third Candle:** [John 18:15-18](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Fourth Candle:** [John 18:19-24](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Fifth Candle:** [John 18:25-27](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Sixth Candle:** [John 18:28-32](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Seventh Candle:** [John 18:33-40](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Eighth Candle:** [John 19:1-11](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Ninth Candle:** [John 19:12-16a](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Tenth Candle:** [John 19:16b-27](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Eleventh Candle:** [John 19:28-37](#) (CEV)

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**All: By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Twelfth Candle: [John 19:38-42](#) (CEV)**

One: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All: **By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**The Light is Gone** (*Christ Candle Extinguished*)

**Loud Noise**

“Were You There When They Laid Him in the Tomb” 1 verse - organ and solo

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**SERVICE OF TENEBRAE (Shadows)**

This evening we will conclude this service using the historical “*Order of Shadows*”. The selected scriptures and the extinguishing of the candles were chosen to prepare us for Christ’s impending crucifixion! Tonight, the darkness gives the appearance that death is the victor. It is the glory and message of Easter morn, that God is triumphant, in life and death!

On Easter morning we will share in the victorious resurrection of Christ, lighting the Paschal Candle, at which time you will also be invited to light a candle in your own homes, as Jesus triumphantly overcomes all darkness in our lives, and even overcomes sin and death.



**MAUNDY**

Maundy Thursday commemorates the institution of Holy Communion during Passover and the giving of the new commandment (*mandatum* - in Latin) that people should love one another even as Christ loves them ([John 13:34-35](#)).



**TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD**

You may offer your tithes and offerings to God through your church by using their secure online giving link, or through the postal mail.

- To offer your tithes or offerings online through [Zion UCC](#) click on this [Zion UCC Online Giving](#) link or at [lzion.org](#), or mail a donation to Zion UCC, PO Box 97, Womelsdorf, PA 19567.
- To offer your tithes or offerings online through [St. Paul’s UCC](#) click on this [St. Paul’s UCC Online Giving](#) link or at [sprucc.org](#), or mail a donation to St. Paul’s UCC, 301 West Penn Ave, Robesonia, PA 19551.



**WORSHIP SERVICE RESOURCE CREDITS**

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<sup>1</sup>Reprinted with permission from *The New Century Hymnal* of the United Church of Christ. (1995). Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press. and/or the *Book of Worship* of the United Church of Christ (1986). New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.

<sup>2</sup>*Taught by Love* by Lavon Bayler. (1998). Cleveland, OH: United Church Press.

<sup>3</sup>Reprinted with permission from *Sundays and Seasons*. (2013). Augsburg Fortress.

<sup>4</sup>Reprinted with permission from the *Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the United States*. and/or *The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church*. (1985) New York: United Church Press.

<sup>5</sup>Reprinted with permission from *Sourcebook of Worship Services*

<sup>6</sup>Reprinted with permission from *Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ*. (2013).

<sup>7</sup>Bratcher, Dennis (2009). Monte Nabors and Kelly Yates with additions by Dennis Bratcher & Peter Marshall. *The Voice, CRI/Voice, Institute*. “Hanging of the Christmas Green; A Service for the Beginning of Advent.” - *adapted*

<sup>8</sup>The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

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Resources are edited and adapted for use in this worship service.

Even though separated by physical distance,  
we are all in this supportively together,  
and we are one with our Lord God.