

The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 -- office@sprucc.org -- www.sprucc.org

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our
Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*

† † †

April 6, 2023
Maundy Thursday
6:30pm



Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Bibles en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2nd and Last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Young Children & Family Ministries

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia. For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

More Information...

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the *Blue Visitor Table* in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: *= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*

Virtual Worship Service

Online: **Live Stream** at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on *Our YouTube Channel*

Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later

Phone Stream at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org



www.sprucc.org



Free WiFi

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

A TIME OF GATHERING

*{If you have not already done so, please sign the welcome pad.
Knowing how many people are here this year will help us better plan for next year's service.}*

{We will NOT be passing an offering plate/basket during this evening's worship service.

An offering basket is located near the bulletins and welcome pads.

You are invited to place any tithes or offerings you wish to offer to the Lord in the basket during the "Time of Gathering" or prior to the departure to the sanctuary.}

RINGING OF THE BELL

{Those who are able, please rise}

*INVOCATION

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

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP ②

Leader: Let us come together in the spirit of thanksgiving and humble gratitude.

**People: We remember this special night from long ago,
when Jesus gathered with his disciples in the Upper Room.**

Leader: Let us give God praise for that supper of forgiveness and dedication.

People: We recognize that Jesus' supper was a feast of community we now share with him, and so we say: "Come, LORD Jesus, feed us your meal of salvation and hope."

*OPENING PRAYER *(Unison)*

O God, We have gathered, in answer to your mandate that we love one another as you have loved us in Jesus of Nazareth. We gather as disciples awaiting a word of assurance and promise. We seek protection from all who insist on conformity to their narrow points of view. We seek empowerment at the table of remembrance and celebration. We long to love as we have been loved, to serve as Christ has served among us, to live lives of thanksgiving that fulfill our vows to you and to one another. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"

♪ Red #341

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*CALL TO CONFESSION ② *(Leader)*

Dear friends in Christ, in the shadow of our Savior's holy cross, we admit what God already knows: We have sinned against God in thought, word and deed. We have failed God by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. Let us pray...

***CONFESSION OF SIN** ² (*Unison*)

God of love, we confess that we have been slow to turn to you with our sacrifices of thanksgiving. When things go well for us, we give credit to our own efforts rather than pay our vows to you. In times of difficulty, we resist your claims on us and deny your covenant. We want our own way, as if our desires should rule your world. We have not learned to love others, without conditions or to serve them without pretense. Forgive us, we pray, and free us to know the blessing and joy of following where Jesus leads. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** ² (*Leader*)

God has heard our voices and listened to our supplications. We are welcomed by Jesus Christ to the table where all may eat and drink and find a welcome. Our host bows down to wash our feet and invites us to do the same for one another. Embrace this opportunity to love as we have been loved. Lift up the cup of salvation, for we have been freed from our sin to praise God. **Amen.**

{Please be seated}

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER INVITATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. . .

PRAYER BEFORE MEAL (*Leader*)

Holy God, we need your help to face the challenges of this night. Our intentions are good. We want to share in the heritage of our faith, to remember the saving drama of Passover and to celebrate Jesus' last meal with close friends. We want to be disciples, but we also count the cost, and tremble. Incline your ear to us and hear our supplications. We gather as your servant people, knowing we are precious in your sight, yet afraid to take the risk of trusting you completely. Lead us this night into deeper commitment.

Amen.

MEAL

ANTHEM

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING (*Based on Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19*)

Leader: We love you, God. You have heard our cry.

People: We will call on you every day of our lives.

Leader: What shall we give in return for all your goodness to us?

People: We will praise you and call upon your name.

Leader: In front of all these people, we will promise to serve you.

People: O God, we are your servants; you have made us free.

Leader: We will thank you and call upon your name.

People: In front of all these people, we will promise to serve you.

Leader: In this church and in all the world, we will praise you!

People: We praise you, O God!

GOSPEL LESSON: [John 13:1-17, 31b-35](#)

HYMN

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Family of God #564

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INVITATION *(Leader)*

This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow Christ’s way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God’s mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table, then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God’s new age.

COMMUNION PRAYER *(Leader)*

We give you thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and raising us from dust by the breath of your being. We bless you for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.

We remember the covenant you made with your people Israel, and we give you thanks for all our ancestors in faith. We rejoice that you call us to reconciliation with you and all people everywhere and that you remain faithful to your covenant even when we are faithless.

We rejoice that you call the entire human family to this table of sacrifice and victory. We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom you sent, in the fullness of time, to be the good news. Born of Mary, our sister in faith, Christ lived among us to reveal the mystery of your Word, to suffer and die on the cross for us, to be raised from death on the third day, and then to live in glory.

We give thanks to you, gracious God, for the presence of your Holy Spirit in the church you have gathered. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(Leader)*

Lord, we remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. 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 *(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, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, 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. **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

*{The Elders shall distribute the elements of bread, wine, and juice,
placing them on the tables}*

BREAKING THE BREAD AND RAISING THE CUP *(Ordained Minister)*

CALL TO THE LORD'S SUPPER *(Leader)*

The gifts of God for the people of God. Eat and drink in remembrance of the sacrifice made for you.

SHARING AND CONSUMING THE ELEMENTS

*{You are invited to break bread & pour juice with one another.}
{The Bread & Juice may be consumed in their entirety.}*

{Those who are able please rise}

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *(Leader)*

O God, by coming to your table we receive more gifts than we deserve. We give thanks for Jesus Christ, through whom we receive life and in whom we are bound in covenant. Renew us so we may willingly serve as Christ served. **Amen.**

***HYMN**

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Family of God #256

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***DEPARTURE TO SANCTUARY**

{Please depart in a mood of reverent worship to the sanctuary}

{Please remain standing when you enter the sanctuary}

***HYMN**

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

W&R #272

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{Please be seated}

COLLECT *(Leader)*

Suffering God, whose compassion is with all your children in their times of grievous need and whose purposes will prevail in spite of opposition, injustice, and death, take us once more to Gethsemane and to Calvary to face the cross. Let us share the experience of loneliness, rejection, and pain in such a way that we are strengthened to live as people of the covenant who provoke one another to love and give encouragement to those facing bitter trials. Forsake not your children, we pray, for we trust you and want to respond to your leading. **Amen.**

READINGS:

- The Shadow of Betrayal:** [Matthew 26:20-25](#)
The Shadow of Desertion: [Matthew 26:31-35](#)
The Agony of the Soul: [Luke 22:39-44](#)
The Unshared Vigil: [Mark 14:32-41](#)
Father, the Hour is Come: [John 17:1-6](#)
That They All May Be One: [John 17:15-22](#)
The Arrest at the Gate: [John 18:1-5](#)
The Shadow of the Cross: [Mark 15:16-20](#)
The Word Was God: [John 1:1-4, 14, 10, 12, 3:10](#)

SOLO

“Were You There”

Afro- American Spiritual

SILENT PRAYER

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.**

SILENT DEPARTURE

† † †

The Church of Christ

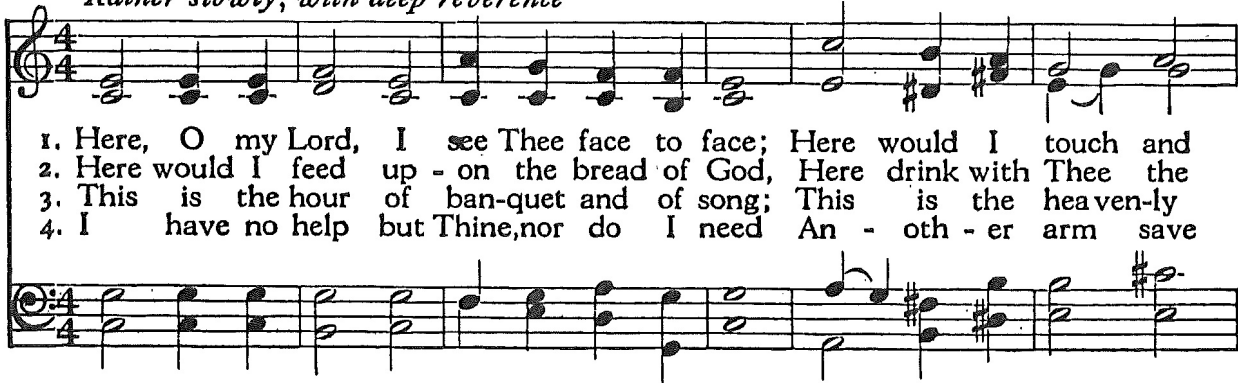
341

HORATIUS BONAR, 1855

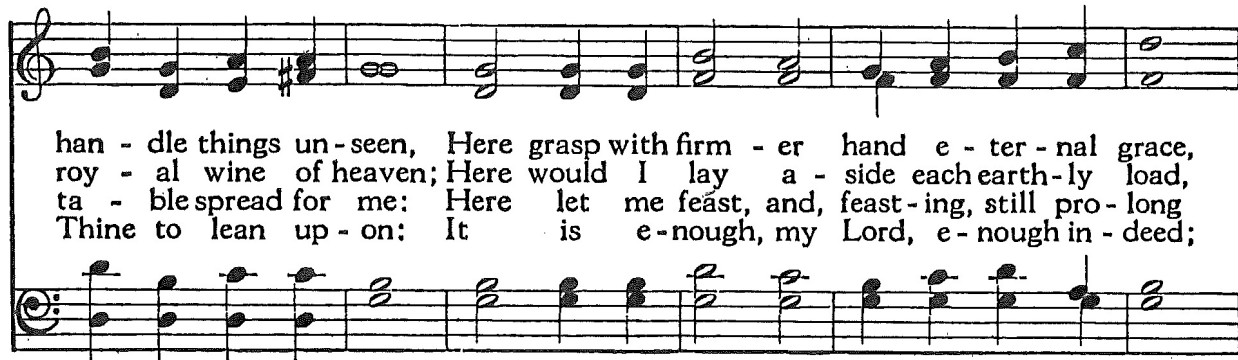
10. 10. 10. 10.

MORECAMBE
FREDERICK C. ATKINSON, 1870

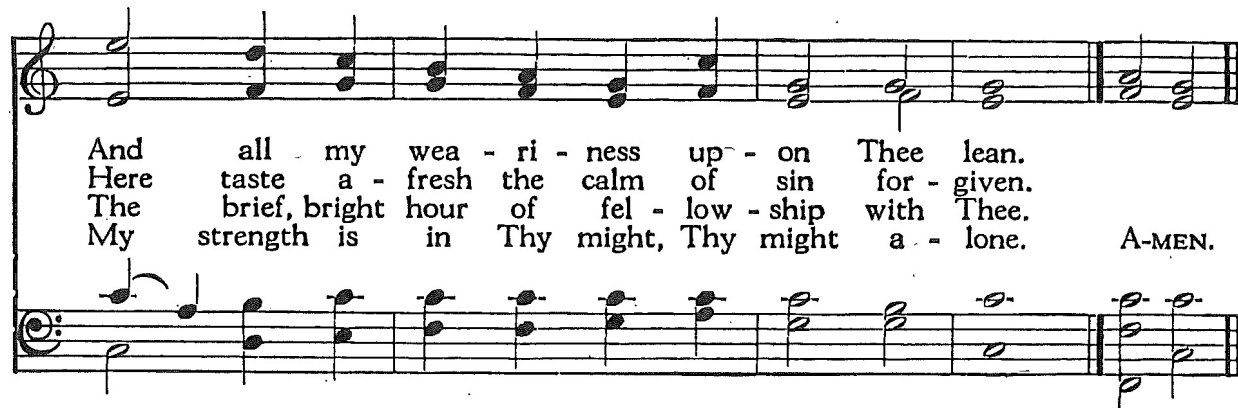
Rather slowly, with deep reverence



1. Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face; Here would I touch and
2. Here would I feed up - on the bread of God, Here drink with Thee the
3. This is the hour of ban-quet and of song; This is the heaven-ly
4. I have no help but Thine, nor do I need An - oth - er arm save



han - dle things un - seen, Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
roy - al wine of heaven; Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
ta - ble spread for me: Here let me feast, and, feast - ing, still pro - long
Thine to lean up - on: It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



And all - my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.
Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
The brief, bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone. A-MEN.

564

Let Us Break Bread Together

He took bread and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

LET US BREAK BREAD
American Folk Melody

American Folk Hymn

— Luke 24:30

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 *Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;*
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 *Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;*
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;

When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

COMMUNION

256 The Old Rugged Cross

He humbled Himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross. Philippians 2:8

B \flat B \flat ^o B \flat E \flat E \flat ^o E \flat C F7 B \flat /_F

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

F7 B \flat B \flat ^o B \flat E \flat E \flat ^o E \flat

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 - fered and died
 proach glad - ly bear. Then He'll call me some - day to my home far a - way,

C F7 F9 B \flat /_F F7 B \flat F B \flat /_F F7 Refrain

7. For a world of lost sin - ners was slain. So I'll cher - ish 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.

B \flat B \flat ^o B \flat B \flat B \flat E \flat E \flat ^{#4} E \flat B \flat

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

B \flat B \flat ^o B \flat E \flat B \flat /_F F7 B \flat

14. 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

Go to Dark Gethsemane

272

E \flat B \flat E \flat A \flat E \flat Cm B \flat E \flat

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, you that feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing

Fm7 Ab B \flat E \flat E \flat Cm B \flat E \flat A \flat Dm7(b5) Ab E \flat

tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see;
 life ar - rained. O the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,

E \flat E \flat B \flat Gm Cm7 F7 B \flat E \flat B \flat 7 E \flat
 G D E \flat F G F

watch with him one bit - ter hour; turn not from his
 O the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - fering,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete: "It is fin - ished!"

Ab E \flat E \flat B \flat 7 E \flat Fm E \flat B \flat B \flat E \flat
 G F Ab B \flat

griefs a - way; learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn of Je - sus Christ to die.

WORDS: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.
 MUSIC: Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

REDHEAD
 7.7.7.7.7.