

# Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

April 14, 2022 7:00 pm



*Mandatum novum do vobis*, the first words of an anthem sung in earliest times in Roman Catholic churches, means "a new commandment I give to you." The word "maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, "to mandate or command".

It was on this Thursday night that Christ and the disciples observed Passover and ate together for the last time. It was also then that Christ washed the feet of the disciples and gave them a new commandment — to love one another as he had loved them. To take part in a communion service on the Thursday before Easter is to remember Christ's last supper with his disciples and that new mandate, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

At the conclusion of this service, the sanctuary is stripped of all adornments and remains bare until Easter morning, when the process is reversed, and the worship space is "dressed" again. The stark, bare unadorned church now reflects Jesus' abandonment during the night in Gethsemane. The visual aspect of the transformed worship space gives us a dramatic depiction of Christ's desolation. Symbolically, Jesus, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors.

*We are grateful for your presence with us tonight! We welcome all persons regardless of race, nationality, disability, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and to serve as an officer of the church.*

*We recycle! If you are not taking your bulletin, please drop it in the blue bin at the door as you leave.*

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

## We Gather in Christ

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy One, now is the time in which Jesus is glorified, and you are glorified in him. *John 13:31*  
Empower us to love as Jesus loved, so that everyone will know that we follow the way of Jesus Christ, our friend and savior. Amen

PRELUDE

*There in God's Garden*  
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Farlee

WELCOME

The Rev. Mary Jo E. Holtey

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

## \*HYMN 226: *There in God's Garden*

There in God's garden stands the tree of Wisdom,  
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:  
tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion, tree of all beauty.

Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!"  
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;  
see there the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.

Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;  
our greed has starved it; our despise has choked it.  
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not destroyed it nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome;  
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!  
Give me your sickness; give me all your sorrow; I will give blessing."

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

In all humility and faith in the grace of God, let us confess our sin.

## \*PRAYER OF 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. Amen.**

## \*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Sisters and brothers, believe the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

## \*RESPONSE: **Change My Heart O God**

Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_\_\_ make it ev - er true. \_\_\_\_\_

Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_\_\_ may I be like you. \_\_\_\_\_

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. Both staves end with a double bar line.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

# The Word

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Claudia Hansen, reader

God of Exodus and Resurrection, you have promised to write your law on our hearts. As we hear the reading of your Word, teach us your law of love, that by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may show forth the light of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING: John 13:1–17, 31–35

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.'

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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

### SERMON

#### \*HYMN 521: *In Remembrance of Me*

In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine.  
In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God's own will is done.

In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor.  
In remembrance of me, open the door and let your neighbors in, let them in.

Take, eat, and be comforted; drink and remember too,  
that this is my body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you.

In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.  
In remembrance of me, don't look above, but in your heart, look for God.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

**\*PROFESSION OF FAITH:** *Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Responding to the Word

**OFFERING**



GIVE

*Use the QR code to access the secure giving portal on our website!*

**OFFERTORY**

*One Bread, One Body*

arr. Hayes

*Sanctuary Choir; Bryan Poyzer, director*

**\*RESPONSE**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

**THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

...we sing to the glory of your name:

**RESPONSE 559:** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...  
...Great is the Mystery of Faith.

**RESPONSE 560:** *Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen*

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine...

**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.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*Holy Manna*  
*What Wondrous Love Is This*

arr. Callahan  
arr. Hustad

**PRAYER**

**\*HYMN 220:** *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;  
your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;  
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,  
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete;  
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

**Stripping of the Worship Service**

The chancel will be stripped of everything except the Christ candle, symbolizing the abandonment Jesus felt as his friends left him alone in the garden.

*When Jesus Wept*

When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound.  
When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around.

**Please depart in silence.**