

# Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021

*The Session and members of First Presbyterian Church, Fargo extend a sincere welcome to you. We are grateful for your presence today! 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 Gather in Christ

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love,  
during Holy Week,  
we give you thanks for this night  
Jesus shared with his disciples.  
Between the public parade  
and the public charade  
is this intimate hour.  
Though even now we do not fully understand,  
we long to follow his example:  
to serve as he served,  
to love as he loved.  
Jesus promised  
that if we know these things and do them,  
we will be blessed.  
Help us, then, to know and to do  
all that Jesus taught.  
Though we betray and deny,  
we still come seeking a blessing,  
for this much we do know:  
we cannot live unless you bless us. **Amen.**

### PRELUDE

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*  
Sally Harmon, organist

arr. Callahan

## WELCOME & CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

### CALL TO WORSHIP

This is a day of remembrance for us.

**We lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord.**

Throughout the generations,  
we have received and handed on to others  
what the Lord has given to us:  
water for washing; the towel of service;  
**the bread of his body; the cup of the new covenant;**  
**proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes again.**  
**Let us worship God!**

**HYMN 202:** *An Upper Room did Our Lord Prepare*

**An upper room did our Lord prepare  
for those he loved until the end:  
and his disciples still gather there  
to celebrate their risen friend.**

**A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:  
to share his bread, his loving cup.  
Whatever burdens may bow us down,  
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

**And after supper he washed their feet,  
for service, too, is sacrament.  
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:  
sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

**No end there is! We depart in peace.  
He loves beyond our uttermost:  
in every room in our Father's house  
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even among Jesus' closest disciples,  
not all were clean.  
On this night of all nights,  
we confess the ways we disappoint,  
deny, and even betray  
Jesus, our Teacher and Lord.  
Our confession of sin is made in the sure knowledge  
that Jesus is able to wash us in forgiveness and love.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

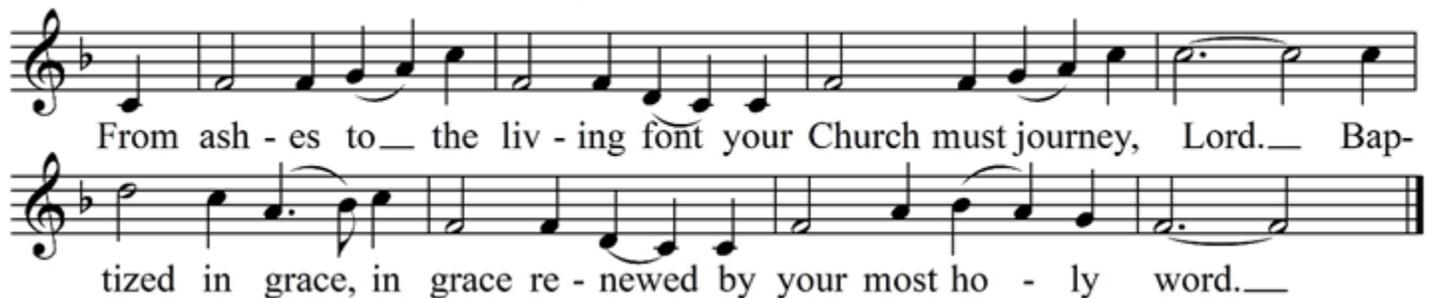
**Holy God, you have called us to serve others as Christ has served us.  
We confess that we have not followed  
Christ's example  
as fully or as often as we should.  
We turn away from people in need.  
True humility eludes us,  
and we hide our own vulnerability before others.  
You have commanded us to love one another  
as you have loved us.  
We confess that we do not love so generously.  
Gathered on this Holy Thursday,  
we confess that we are capable of denying  
and betraying you  
and one another,  
no less than the first disciples.  
Forgive us, merciful God,  
and cleanse us of all our sin;**

then guide our feet to walk with you always.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Disciples of Christ,  
having loved his own who were in the world,  
Jesus loved them to the end.  
Jesus knows us fully  
and offers love and forgiveness unconditionally.  
In gratitude for the grace given to us,  
and as a witness to our faith in Christ,  
we will love one another.

**RESPONSE:** *From Ashes to the Living Font*



From ash - es to\_\_ the liv - ing font your Church must journey, Lord.\_\_ Bap-  
tized in grace, in grace re - newed by your most ho - ly word.\_\_

## The Word

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray,  
that we may see the light of your Word  
in the darkness of our lives.  
And seeing, may we understand;  
understanding, may we do all that you ask.  
In the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**READING:** John 13:1-17, 31b-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 215:** *What Wondrous Love is This*

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down  
beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!**

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,  
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

**AFFIRMATION 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** (*Tonight's offering will be given to the Board of Deacons' Emergency Relief Fund*)

**Choir Anthem**

*Ave Verum Corpus*

W.A.Mozart

ZOOM Choir; Dr. Erynn Millard, director

\*Ave, verum corpus  
natum de Maria Virgine,  
Vere passum immolatum  
in Cruce pro homine,  
Cujus latus perforatum  
unda fluxit et sanguine,  
Esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.

Hail, true body  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who truly suffered, sacrificed  
on the Cross for man,  
Whose pierced side overflowed  
with water and blood,  
Be for us a foretaste  
In the test of death.

## 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...

...who forever 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**

**PRAYER**

## **Stripping of the Worship Space**

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.

**Gift of Music**

*When Jesus Wept*  
Sally Harmon, organ

Billings/arr.  
Powell

The Christ candle remains lit as all depart in silence.