

St. John United Church of Christ

"In Christ We Live, Celebrate, & Serve"

April 17, 2025

Maundy Thursday (C)

Rev. Karla Frost, Pastor David R. Ekstrand, Dir. of Music
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Large print bulletins are available from the Ushers.

Bold italic denotes congregation reads or sings.

*Denotes all who are able, please stand.

WE COME -ro WORSHIP GOD

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC AND BELLS

CALLING TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND CENTERING OUR HEARTS

ON WORSHIP

Were You There? The Bald & The Beautiful

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 121-14

pg. 56

HYMN "An Upper Room with Evening Lamps"

#274

CALL TO WORSHIP & PSALTER READING Psalm 51 We
come this night to lament of our sins,

For we all fall short of the glory of God.
We come this night to lament the sins of the
world, For nowhere on earth, or in history,
does righteousness and justice rule.

Yet we come this night to find hope in our lives,
For God has not forgotten us and again
creates new life.

We come this night to remember and renew the tradition
passed from generation to generation,

For the psalmist still speaks through our hearts. Have
mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my
transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my
transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and
done what is evil in your sight, so that you
are justified in your sentence and blameless
when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being;

Therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash
me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy
and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed
rejoice, Hide your face from my sins, and blot out
all my iniquities, Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me, Do not cast
me away from your presence, and do not take your
holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your
salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your
praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were
to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken
spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God,
you will not despise.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 11.23-26

pg. 163

SUNG RESPONSE

"Let Us Break Bread Together" vs. 1 #699

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break
bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

GOSPEL LESSON John 13:12-17, 31-38

pg. 101

SUNG RESPONSE

"Let Us Break Bread Together" vs. 2 #699

Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink
wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising
sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY El Shaddai

RESPONSE "Let us Break Bread Together" vs. 3 #699

Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me,

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merciful God, Judas agreed to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. If that was all it took for him, how much more do we value Jesus' gift of life? While we are on our knees seeking mercy, we open our hearts to you & praise you for the gift of new life. May our generous gifts from the heart tonight reflect our gratitude as we share life with the children of Kindercottage, & dedicate ourselves to true & faithful discipleship. Amen.

ANTHEM Remember the Message of Mine Chancel Choir Created by David R. Ekstrand INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

BREAKING BREAD, POURING THE CUP AND PARTAKING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

DRAMATIC READINGS

ROLL BACK THE STONE

Mary Magdalene — Karen Gaines

Thomas — Greg Young

Judas — George Cochran

Peter — Dan Comer

Musical Interlude

Peter, Judas, Thomas, Mary Magdalene

ANTHEM

The Rose in the Garden Chancel Choir

Created by David R. Ekstrand

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN NEAR
DARKNESS

THE LIGHT OF HOPE RISES

*LEAVING IN SILENCE

¹ROI Back the Stone: Celebrating the Mystery of Lent and Easter through Drama. By David H. Covington.

We thank the participants in the worship service tonight, including our drama readers, guest musician AnnaLee Ekstrand, Chancel Choir, and The Bald and The Beautiful members: Dan Comer, Karen Gaines, Becky Kriegel, Diane Peach, and Greg Young.

We thank Bev Partney for being our Greeter and Linda Mizell for serving as Liturgist.

Please remain seated throughout the service. The congregation will not be standing for the singing tonight.

In the spirit of Lenten reverence, please do not applaud music or readings. At the end, we leave in silence.

The Lenten Offering Envelopes and tonight's Maundy Thursday offering will be given to Kindercottage.

Sunday's special Easter envelope and regular offering envelope gifts have been designated for our General Fund and the support of our ministries.

As we leave in silence tonight, may we listen for the Spirit directing us to someone in need of special blessing. Please invite and bring them to worship with you so they may experience the new life of Easter morning.

9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion

Sunday School for Children

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour sponsored by Council

Exodus 12:1-14

12 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,
² "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months;
it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the
whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month
they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each
household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb,
it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb
shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who
eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a yearold
male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶

You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and

-6put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. ¹² | will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. ¹⁴ "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance

of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

John 13:12-17, 31-38

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³² If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ 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.' ³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." ³⁶ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered, "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." ³⁷ Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸ Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.