

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 9, 2020
WHITEHOUSE UMC

GREETING

HYMN VERSE – In the Cross of Christ I Glory (UMH 295) v. 1
*In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

CONFESSION & PARDON

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Take a moment to confess your own sins to God.

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

HYMN VERSE – In the Cross of Christ I Glory (UMH 295) v. 2
*When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me.
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.*

SCRIPTURE READING – John 13:1-17, 31b-25

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.

'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.'

THOUGHTS ON FOOT WASHING – Rev. Trey Burns, Pastor

HYMN VERSE – In the Cross of Christ I Glory (UMH 295) v. 3

*When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.*

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 26:17-29

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' He said, 'Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples."' So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, 'Surely not I, Lord?' He answered, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.' Judas, who betrayed him, said, 'Surely not I, Rabbi?' He replied, 'You have said so.'

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.’

THOUGHTS ON THE LAST SUPPER – Rev. Trey Burns, Pastor

HYMN VERSE – In the Cross of Christ I Glory (UMH 295) v. 4

*Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.*

INVITATION TO OBSERVE A LOVE FEAST

Instructions for a Love Feast can be found in at the end of this document.

HYMN VERSE – In the Cross of Christ I Glory (UMH 295) v. 5

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.*

STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

DISMISSAL

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THE LOVE FEAST

The Love Feast is an ancient Christian tradition that has a long history in the Methodist movement. During a Love Feast, Christians are invited to give personal testimony about what God has done or is doing in their lives. As a sign of unity and shared love, everyone present partakes of a symbolic meal. Please remember that a Love Feast is not Holy Communion, nor is it a substitute or a stand-in for that sacrament.

To share in a Love Feast, you just need a few simple items: 1) a gathering of willing Christians, 2) some kind of shareable food (bread or crackers work great), 3) something to drink (water is traditional), and 4) a Scripture passage to read together. If you want, after the symbolic meal, you can transition right into an actual meal, but that’s up to you!

To open your Love Feast, start with a prayer—a simple table blessing will do. Then, read whatever Scripture you have chosen (for this Maundy Thursday 2020 service, Pastor Trey has suggested John 6:25-35; that passage, along with his suggested jumping-off points, are below). Then, everyone present is invited to give a witness or testimony of God’s work in their lives based on that Scripture (if you want to know what that looks like, Pastor Trey gives a short

testimony in the service video). Feel free to listen to the movement of the Holy Spirit while sharing testimonies—if you want to stop in order to say a prayer or sing a hymn or praise song, go ahead! Once all the testimonies are finished, everyone should partake of the symbolic meal (the shareable food and whatever you're having to drink). And that's the Love Feast!

For this Maundy Thursday service, Pastor Trey suggests using John 6:25-35 as the Scripture for your Love Feast. It talks about Jesus being the Bread of Life, meaning that he sustains us in all of our needs. We're currently living through a very unusual time, and we're all finding out that we need more support than we'd ever have imagined. But God is a provider, and has surely been moving in everyone's lives to make sure we're all taken care of. After reading this Scripture, Pastor Trey suggests giving testimony about how God has been providing for you during this time (or at any point in your life). If you don't feel like you connect with that Scripture passage, there are some other suggested passages below.

JOHN 6:25-35

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

OTHER SUGGESTED PASSAGES

Psalm 145:8-21	God's abounding love
1 Corinthians 13	The gift of love
2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Our generous sharing glorifies God
Philippians 2:5-11	God's self-emptying in Jesus Christ
1 John 4:7-21	God is love
Matthew 22:34-40	Love of God and neighbor
Luke 9:12-17	Feeding of the 5,000
Luke 14:16-24	Parable of the great dinner