



First Christian Church

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Welcome to our Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service.

Tonight, we gather to reflect on the profound love and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ as we journey through the events leading up to His crucifixion. Let us enter into this time of remembrance with hearts open to the transforming power of His grace.

Please sign and pass the attendance pads located at the end of your pew. If you are a visitor with us today, welcome! Please leave your contact information so that we can extend a fuller welcome!

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. James R. Brooks

Candles of Grace

A Lenten Cantata featuring familiar spirituals and scriptures
by Joseph M. Martin

PRELUDE

Prelude (The Shadows Fall)

Mr. Matthew D. Albright

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Brooks

Leader: As we gather on this solemn evening, Let us quiet our hearts and minds To enter into the sacred space of remembrance.

All: We come together in the shadow of the cross, To reflect on the love poured out for us, And the sacrifice that brings us redemption.

Leader: Let us turn our eyes to Jesus, The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, And let His grace and mercy fill our hearts.

All: May our worship be a fragrant offering, As we lift our voices in praise and adoration, To the One who gave His all for us.

Leader: Let us worship in spirit and truth, As we journey through the shadows of this night, And draw near to the cross of our Savior.

1. An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare for those he
 2. A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own: to share his
 3. And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet, for ser - vice,
 4. No end there is! We de - part in peace, he loves be -

loved un - til the end: and his dis - ci - ples still
 bread, his lov - ing cup. What - ev - er bur - dens may
 too, is sac - ra - ment. In Christ our joy shall be
 yond the ut - ter - most: in ev - ery room in our

gath - er there to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.
 bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.
 made com - plete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.
 Fa - ther's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

Let us pray together...

Gracious and loving God, As we gather in this sacred space, We humbly come before You, acknowledging your presence among us. On this Maundy Thursday evening, we pause to remember the events that led to the ultimate sacrifice of your Son. Grant us, O Lord, hearts of gratitude for the love demonstrated on the cross and minds attentive to the lessons of humility and service. May your Spirit move within us, guiding our thoughts, words, and actions, So that our worship tonight may be pleasing in your sight. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who taught us to pray by singing...

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, and the bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. Both are in 2/2 time and B-flat major. The vocal line begins with a whole rest, then enters with a half note G4, followed by a half note F4, a half note E4, a half note D4, a half note C4, a half note B3, a half note A3, and a half note G3. The piano accompaniment begins with a half note G3, followed by a half note F3, a half note E3, a half note D3, a half note C3, a half note B2, a half note A2, and a half note G2. The lyrics 'Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en,' are written below the vocal line.

Unison

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en,

hal-low-ed be thy name. Thy king-dom

come, thy will be done on earth as it is in

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly bread, and for-

give us our debts, as we for-give our debt-ors.

(may be omitted)

This system consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. A bracket on the right side of the treble staff indicates a section that may be omitted.

And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion but de-liv-er us from

This system continues the melody in the treble staff and provides a harmonic accompaniment in the bass staff. The time signature changes to 9/8.

e-vil: for thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er,

This system features a more complex treble staff with many beamed eighth notes, while the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

and the glo-ry, for-ev-er,

This system includes a change in the treble staff to 12/8 time, indicated by a '12' over the staff. The melody becomes more rhythmic with many beamed notes.

A-men, A-men.

The final system concludes the piece with a sustained note in the treble staff and a final accompaniment in the bass staff. The time signature returns to 9/8.

The congregation may respond with silent contemplation after each candle is extinguished.

READING 1

Mrs. Robin Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

Bring Me to the Cross
by Douglas Nolan / Brad Nix

Chancel Choir

READING 2

Mrs. Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

The Garden Call
by Joseph Martin / Brad Nix

Chancel Choir

READING 3

Mrs. Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

Man of Sorrows, What a Name
by Phillip P. Bliss / D. Hannibal; arr. Brad Nix

Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Dr. Brooks

On this day, we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples, where he broke bread and shared the cup, calling us to "do this in remembrance of me." As we partake in the bread and the cup, we are reminded of Jesus' sacrifice and the love he showed for us.

B \flat Dm E \flat F E \flat

1. In re - mem - brance of me, eat this bread. In re -
2. (In re -) mem - brance of me, heal the sick. In re -

E \flat Cm F F7 Gm E \flat

mem - brance of me, drink this wine. In re - mem - brance of me,
mem - brance of me, feed the poor. In re - mem - brance of me,

A \flat F B \flat Dm 1 E \flat 9 F7Sus

pray for the time when God's own will is done. In re -
o - pen the door and let your neigh - bor

2 E \flat 9 F7 B \flat G \flat B \flat

in, let them in. Take, eat, and be com - fort - ed;

G^b B^b Gm F E^b

drink and re-mem - ber too. That this is my bod - y and pre - cious

B^b C C7 F7Sus F7 B^b

blood shed for you, shed for you. In re-mem-brance of

Dm E^b F E^b E^b Cm F

me, search for truth. In re-mem-brance of me, al - ways love.

F7 Gm E^b A^b F B^b F7Sus

In re-mem-brance of me, don't look a - bove, but in your heart

F7 B^b F^{sus}/B^b (Optional ending) (Choir or congregation) C^{sus} B^b

look for God. Do this in re-mem-brance of me.

PRAYER FOR THE ELEMENTS

Elder Munson

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Dr. Brooks

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

Individually packaged communion elements are provided for your safety and convenience. To open, gently bend the tab down to separate the clear film and peel it back to expose the wafer. Carefully pull the remaining foil tab to open the juice cup. You may partake of the elements at the same time as the minister.

READING 4

Mrs. Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

Jesus Lover of My Soul
by Fanny Crosby / W. Doane / arr. Joseph M. Martin

Chancel Choir

READING 5

Mrs. Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

Near the Cross of Jesus
by Fanny Crosby / W. Doane / arr. Joseph M. Martin

Chancel Choir

READING 6

Mrs. Byers

CHOIR ANTHEM

Scenes from a Solemn Cross
by Douglas Nolan / J. P. Williams / arr. Joseph M. Martin

Chancel Choir

BENEDICTION

Let the Cross of Christ go before us as we leave this place. May the deep remembering of our moments here, guide every thought and action as we prepare for Life's new beginning. May our fragile hearts find comfort. May our wounded alleluias find healing. May our longing Spirits know the power of forgiveness. May our brokenness become beautiful in the light of heaven's grace. And may God's goodness and mercy surround us until we gather again, created by the light of the risen Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Epilogue (The Shadows Fall)

Mr. Albright

*The congregation leaves in silence as the music continues until all have departed.
As we depart in silence, let us carry the depth of Christ's love and the weight of His sacrifice in our hearts.
May we walk in His footsteps, bearing witness to His grace in the world.
Thank you for joining us in this sacred time of remembrance.*

*Please rise whether in body or spirit.

**Please remain seated until the Minister processes' out of the Sanctuary, thank you.

Kindly remember to take your empty communion cups with you and deposit them in the trashcan provided as you leave the Sanctuary.

Those participating in our Service Tonight:

The Rev. Dr. James R. Brooks, Senior Minister

Mr. Matthew D. Albright, Director of Music Ministry

Mr. Ted Munson, Elder

Mr. Joe Bender, Security

Rev. Wayne and Norma Jean Warren, Greeters

Ms. Diann Smith, Camera

Members of the Chancel Choir:

Angela Akamine, Elena Althouse, Reed Althouse, Larry Black, Neil Bohner, Robin Byers,
Leon Catlett, Missy Cline, Mary Elkind, TJ Farren, Sue Gerberich, Debby Harris, Judy Koch,
Barry McNew, Theresa Miller, Cal Scholl, Randy Sprecher, Tajah Sprecher, David Styer,
Naomi Styer, and Roy Widder



Good Friday Prayer

Lord God, Jesus cried out to you on the cross, "Why have you forsaken me?" You seemed so far from his cry and from his distress. Those who stood at the foot of the cross wondered where you were, as they saw Jesus mocked and shamed and killed. Where were you then? Lord God, we, too, ask where you are, when there is trouble and suffering and death, and we cry out to you for help. Be near to us, and save us so that we may praise you for your deliverance. Lord God, we wait, on Friday, for the resurrection of Sunday and sometimes our lives seem a succession of Fridays and we cannot see what is "Good." Teach us to call your name as Jesus did. Make us to trust in you like little children. In Jesus' name, Amen.

— Rachel Marie Stone

In memory of Christ's Passion and Death

**Good Friday
UNITY WALK**
March 29 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
~ HAGERSTOWN CITY PARK ~

Walk begins at the Gazebo (adjacent to the Museum parking lot) and concludes at the grotto

A no-walking option will also be offered at the Gazebo

This a FREE event, no registration required.
For complete details, visit harcoalition.org/events
Hosted by Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC)

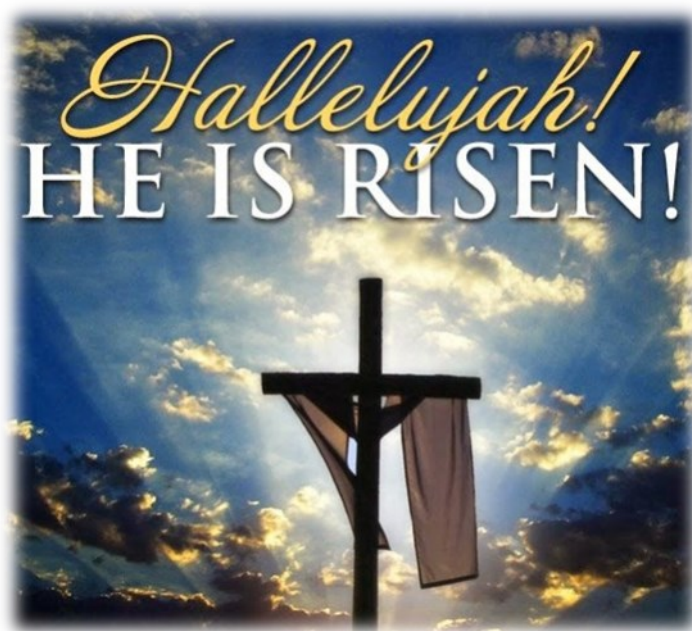
EASTER

SUNDAY
WORSHIP
SERVICE

SUNDAY,
MARCH 31ST
10:00 AM

LOVE TRIUMPHS DEATH

Please join us for our Easter Service,
Sunday, March 31st at 10:00 AM



Easter Prayer

Draw us forth, God of all creation. Draw us forward and away from limited certainty into the immense world of your love. Give us the capacity to even for a moment taste the richness of the feast you give us. Give us the peace to live with uncertainty, with questions, with doubts. Help us to experience the resurrection anew with open wonder and an increasing ability to see you in the people of Easter. Amen.

— Author Unknown

Worship Services are In-Person and Live Online (FaceBook and YouTube) at 10:00 AM

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