

Maundy Thursday
April 18, 2019

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. ~ John 13:1

Dinner **6:00-6:40 PM**

Time of Transition to Worship **6:40-6:45 PM**

Time of Worship and Remembrance

Welcome

O God, How We Have Wandered (hymn no. 202, verse 1)

ALL SING: O God, how we have wandered and hidden from your face; in foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace. But how, in exile dwelling, we turn with fear and shame, as distant but compelling, you call us each by name.

Caiaphas¹~John 11: 47-53

Then the chief priests and Pharisees called together the council and said, "What are we going to do? This man is doing many miraculous signs! If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him. Then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our people." One of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, told them, "You don't know anything! You don't see that it is better for you that one man die for the people rather than the whole nation be destroyed." He didn't say this on his own. As high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would soon die for the nation—and not only for the nation. Jesus would also die so that God's children scattered everywhere would be gathered together as one. From that day on they plotted to kill him.

It Was a Sad and Solemn Night (hymn no. 225, v. 1)

ALL SING: It was a sad and solemn night, when powers of earth
and hell arose against the Child of God's delight, whom friends
betrayed to wicked foes.

Woman with the Alabaster Jar ¹~ Mark 14: 3-9

Jesus was at Bethany visiting the house of Simon, who had a skin disease. During dinner, a woman came in with a vase made of alabaster and containing very expensive perfume. She broke open the vase and poured the perfume on his head. Some grew angry. They said to each other, "Why waste the perfume? This perfume could have been sold for almost a year's pay and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? She has done a good thing for me. You always have the poor with you; and whenever you want, you can do something good for them. But you won't always have me. She has done what she could. She has anointed my body ahead of time for burial. I tell you the truth that, wherever the good news is announced, what she's done will also be told in memory of her."

What Wondrous Love Is This (hymn no. 223, v. 1)

ALL SING: 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 Christ should come in bliss to bear the heavy cross for
my soul, for my soul, to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

Peter¹ ~ Matthew 16:13-19

Now when Jesus came to the area of Caesarea Philippi, he asked the disciples, "Who do people say the human one is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, other Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." He said, "And what about you? Who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Then Jesus replied, "Happy are you, Simon son of Jonah, because no human has shown this to you. Rather my Father who is in heaven has shown you. I tell you that you are Peter. And I'll build my church on this rock. The gates of the underworld won't be able to stand against it. I'll give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Anything you fasten on earth will be fastened in heaven. Anything you loosen on earth will be loosened in heaven."

Savior, When In Tears and Dust (hymn no. 185, v. 3)

ALL SING: By your hour of dire despair, by your agony of prayer,
by the cross, the nail, the thorn, piercing spear, and torturing
scorn, by the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dreadful
sacrifice: Listen to our humble cry, hear our solemn litany.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

One: When would you remember? Tonight's service, and our communion together, are intended for us to remember Jesus together...regardless of who you are or what you are carrying, come to this table now to encounter Jesus the Christ. Let us prepare our hearts. God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Many: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Loving God, on that night long ago, you knew that your hour had come. You knew full well what lay ahead of you. Your disciples loved you and followed you but they had also failed you. They would fail you yet again that night, and one would betray you. Yet you washed their feet, as a servant would, even the feet of your betrayer. We have also loved you and followed you. We have also failed you, and we cannot comprehend the love that you show us, the love that is our example, the love that tells us to do as you have done for us. May we be like you, Master, servant of all. May all see how we long to be your faithful disciples. May all see how we love each other, just as you have loved us. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REMEMBERING THE STORY

One: On that night, as they shared the Passover meal, while they were all eating Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it and gave it to them saying,

Many: Take; this is my body given for you, as often as you eat it remember me.

One: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he blessed it and gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

Many: 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. Truly, I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of God.

CONSECRATING THE ELEMENTS

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

The Bread

As we sing, Pastor Danielle and Pastor Jeff will pass around the bread so that each table has bread to share with one another. Take a piece and pass the loaf to the person beside you. After all are served, we will join in eating the bread together.

ALL SING: 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, My God, have mercy on me. 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, My God, have mercy on me.

The Cup (all cups contain grape juice)

As we sing, Pastor Danielle and Pastor Jeff will pass around the juice so that each table has juice to share with one another. After all are served, we will join in drinking the juice together.

ALL SING: 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, My God, have mercy on me. 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, My God, have mercy on me.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Many: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Strengthen our faith, increase our love, and send us forth in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit as we offer hope, healing, reconciliation, and love to this broken world. Amen.

James, son of Zebedee¹~ Matthew 26: 36-46

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane. He said to the disciples, "Stay here while I go and pray over there." When he took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, he began to feel sad and anxious. Then he said to them, "I'm very sad. It's as if I'm dying. Stay here and keep alert with me." Then he went a short distance farther and fell on his face and prayed, "My Father, if it's possible, take this cup of suffering away from me. However—not what I want but what you want." He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "Couldn't you stay alert one hour with me? Stay alert and pray so that you won't give in to temptation. The spirit is eager, but the flesh is weak." A second time he went away and prayed, "My Father, if it's not possible that this cup be taken away unless I drink it, then let it be what you want." Again he came and found them sleeping. Their eyes were heavy with sleep. But he left them and again went and prayed the same words for a third time. Then he came to his disciples and said, "Will you sleep and rest all night? Look, the time has come for the Human One to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up. Let's go. Look, here comes my betrayer."

Just As I Am (hymn no. 207, v. 2)

**ALL SING: Just as I am, though tossed about with many a
conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O
Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

Malchus, Priest's Slave¹~ John 18: 3-11 & Luke 22: 49-51

When those around him recognized what was about to happen, they said, "Lord, should we fight with our swords?" One of them struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. Jesus responded, "Stop! No more of this!" He touched the slave's ear and healed him.

Judas brought a company of soldiers and some guards from the chief priests and Pharisees. They came there carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus knew everything that was to happen to him, so he went out and asked, "Who are you looking for?" They answered, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, "I Am." Judas, his betrayer was standing with them. When he said, "I Am," they shrank back and fell to the ground. He asked them again, "Who are you looking for?" They said, "Jesus the Nazarene." Jesus answered, "I told you, 'I Am.' If you are looking for me, let these people go." This was so that the word he had spoken might be fulfilled: "I didn't lose anyone of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus told Peter, "Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me?"

Before Your Cross, O Jesus (hymn no. 191, v. 1)

ALL SING: Before your cross, O Jesus, our lives are judged today;
the meaning of our eager strife is tested by your way. Across
the restless living the light streams from the cross, and by its
clear, revealing beams we measure gain and loss.

Judas¹~ Matthew 26: 14-16 & 47-50

Then one of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I turn Jesus over to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. From that time on he was looking for an opportunity to turn him in... While Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, came. With him was a large crowd carrying swords and clubs. They had been sent by the chief priests and elders of the people. His betrayer had given them a sign: "Arrest the man I kiss." Just then he came to Jesus and said, "Hello, Rabbi." Then he kissed him. But Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came and grabbed Jesus and arrested him.

ALL SING (Hymn 224): When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Christ of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, then, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most I sacrifice them to Christ's blood.

From sacred head, from hands, and feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

TIME OF SILENCE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

¹All monologues written, or adapted from other sources, by Rev. Nicolette Cirano, pastor at Bolton Congregational Church in Bolton, CT. Monologues were shared by Rev. Cirano with permission to be used in this service.