

MAUNDY THURSDAY

COMMUNION

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

7:00 PM – MARCH 28, 2024

IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM



On this night we remember and celebrate the Last Supper that Jesus ate with his disciples; the supper we celebrate in our churches as Holy Communion.

“Maundy” is a word derived from the Latin “mandatum novum,” meaning a “new commandment.” It refers to John 13:34, where Jesus washes the disciples’ feet and says, “A new commandment I give, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

Our worship this evening features communion and a Tenebrae or Service of Shadows, based on a 12th century late night service which meditates on the Passion of Christ.

If you are joining us on Zoom, please have communion elements ready! You may also wish to light a candle for this service at home.

Please use speaker view and keep your mics muted.

THE TIME OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND INVITATION including John 13:34 Patty Fox
“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.”

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Mark Burrows

Leader: We who call upon the name of Christ are gathered to recall the story of the night in which Jesus Christ was betrayed. Are you prepared to come to the table of Jesus Christ, whose life was poured out for you?

People: By the grace of God, we are.

Leader: Are you able to watch with Jesus at prayer in the garden, indeed, to struggle yourselves to be in unity with God’s will?

People: By the grace of God, we are.

Leader: Will you follow Jesus even into the night of betrayal?

People: By the grace of God, we will.

Leader: Then let us praise God, even in this difficult hour!

All: God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is your name to be praised in all the earth.

HYMN #198 *Were You There?*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Mark Burrows

Loving God, we gather this evening hour just as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks of a bitter and broken world. We come from many places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us, in the breaking of the bread, of our need and of your sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us closer to each other in mutual service, and nearer to You in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. As the night advances, deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us in Jesus Christ, our friend and redeemer. Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF CHRIST’S LAST SUPPER

INTRODUCTION Ute Molitor

THE STORY AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Matthew 26:20-29) Ute Molitor
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 Human One goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Human One 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 God's kingdom."

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Patty Fox

Blessed is Christ in all Christ's love and beauty. God of all life, as we do what Jesus once did, let your Spirit move among us to settle on this bread and this fruit of the vine that they may become your life-giving gifts of forgiveness and renewal of life.

INVITATION

Patty Fox

All you who hunger and thirst for a better life, for a deeper faith, for a better world, here is the bread of life: feed on it with gratitude; here is the cup of salvation, drink from it and believe.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Ute Molitor

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the bread of heaven.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the bread we share. (*We pause to eat the bread together.*)

Leader: Let us with our many needs and many blessings, receive the gift of God, the cup of blessing.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the cup we share. (*We pause to drink from the cup together.*)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mark Burrows

Loving God, we thank you for the deep love of Jesus, which moved him to risk himself for us; and for the grace we experience in receiving these symbols of the life he gave. May the Holy Spirit convert us that we may truly become Christ's living body in our world. Amen.

TENEBRAE (SERVICE OF SHADOWS)

OPENING WORDS

Patty Fox

Leader: And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and we tried to extinguish his flame. God sent Christ into the world, not to condemn the world,

All: But that the world be healed through Christ.

DIMMING OF LIGHTS AND EXTINGUISHING OF CANDELABRAS

REMEMBERING THE STORY

Readings from Matthew 26

(After each reading, a candle is extinguished as a sign of the disciples' desertion.)

Readers: Mimi Edmunds, Tim Sheehy, Terri Mackenzie,
Mike Fletcher, Larry Ward, Wendy Wickenden

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

♪ Roy Hitchings, soloist

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His 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. Amen.

ALL CANDLES, EXCEPT THE CHRIST CANDLE, ARE EXTINGUISHED.

IF YOU ARE JOINING ON ZOOM, PLEASE NOW TURN OFF YOUR OWN
VIDEO FUNCTION ON YOUR SCREEN
TO SYMBOLIZE YOUR OWN SHADOWS THAT APPEAR IN FEAR.

MEDITATION BEFORE THE CROSS

READING

Psalm 22: 1-18

Mary Brett

(Last candle is extinguished.)

SILENCE AND VEILING OF THE CROSS

THE CROSS (from The Iona Community Worship Book)

The cross ...

We shall take it.

The bread ...

We shall break it.

The pain ...

We shall bear it.

The joy ...

We shall share it.

The gospel ...

We shall live it.

The love ...

We shall give it.

The light ...

We shall cherish it.

The darkness ...

God shall perish it. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Ute Molitor

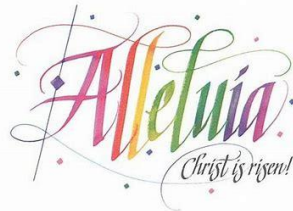
SILENCE AND TOLLING OF THE BELL

Thanks to the participants in our Maundy Thursday Service.

Greeters: Terri Mackenzie, Jane Babbitt
Musician: Matt Mainster
Soloist: Roy Hitchings
Liturgist: Mark Burrows
Readers: Mimi Edmunds, Tim Sheehy, Terri Mackenzie, Mike Fletcher, Larry Ward,
Wendy Wickenden, Mary Brett



EASTER WEEK SERVICES



**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE MARCH 29
AT 12 NOON, CHESTNUT ST. BAPTIST CHURCH, CAMDEN**

**EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE SERVICE
SUNDAY, MARCH 31 AT 6 AM, LAITE BEACH, CAMDEN
REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTERWARDS**

EASTER SUNDAY HYBRID SERVICE ON MARCH 31

AT 9:30 AM IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM, PRELUDE BEGINS AT 9:15 AM

Join in as we celebrate the gift of the resurrection on Easter Sunday, March 31st! The resurrection is not just an event of a long time ago but a daily reality of our unfolding. As we celebrate this great news, we'll also enjoy the Prelude at 9:15 am by the Midcoast Brass Ensemble. Be sure to be there before 9:15 for this wonderful music. You will receive your invite, zoom link and bulletin as you do every week. Please feel free to share it and invite friends and family from far and wide! If you are not already on our list, please contact becky@camdenucc.org.