

First United Methodist Church

Welcome to the Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae
March 28, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

A Service of Tenebrae, or Darkness, is based on a 12th century night service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ, allowing the Scriptures themselves to be the central message of the evening. It begins with the Sacrament of Holy Communion, picking up the story of Christ's passion from the Last Supper. As each lesson is read, a candle is extinguished. The final act of Tenebrae is the stripping of the altar and silence, to symbolize the stark reality of Christ's sacrifice for love of humankind.

*** You are invited to stand if you are able**

Bell Prelude:

"In Quiet Faith"

by Don Allured

***Call to Worship**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

P: Christ has prepared a feast of love. Thanks be to God.

***Gathering Hymn UMH #432: "Jesu, Jesu" (vs 1, 4, 5)**

Chorus: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love
show us how to serve the
neighbors we have from you.

4) Loving puts us on our knees,
Serving as though we are slaves,
This is the way we should live
with you. *[Chorus]*

1) Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.
[Chorus]

5) Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live
with you. *[Chorus]*

Confession and Pardon:

L: My sisters and brothers, Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

P: Most Merciful God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us; where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Time of Silent Meditation

L: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the Good News: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory be to God! Amen.

Living Our Gratitude

♪ Please continue to support your church family as we recover from this season of pandemic. Enjoy the musical selection as a time to give thanks to God for all with which you have been blessed.

Use the QR code to the right or give online here:

<https://www.firstumcsaginaw.org/give/>



Offertory: “Whiter Than Snow”

by William G. Fischer; arr. Richard Kingsmore

***The Doxology**

**Praise God throughout these forty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s grace and love to human hearts. Amen.**

**Tune: UMH #95
(old 100th)**

***The Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

(from “Prayers for an Inclusive Church”, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com>.)

Loving God, as you came in flesh among us, as you taught us truth and wholeness, as you suffered with us all that humanity feels and faces, so we seek to follow your example. Infuse our hearts with compassion, our spirits with courage, our minds with determination, that we may use these offerings to walk with you and others through dark and difficult days, by your unending grace. Amen.

Reading #1: The Servant Leader – John 13:1-11

Pastor Brad Terhune

Reading #2: Maundatum Novum (*The New Commandment*) – John 13:12-17, 34-35

Pastor Amy Terhune

Reading #3: The Last Supper - Mark 14:22-25

Pastor Brad Terhune

Hymn TFWS #2254: “In Remembrance of Me”

1) In remembrance of me, eat this bread;
In remembrance of me, drink this wine;
In remembrance of me, pray for the time
When God's own will is done.

Bridge: Take, eat, and be comforted;
Drink and remember, too, that
This is my body and precious blood
Shed for you, shed for you.

2) In remembrance of me, heal the sick;
In remembrance of me, feed the poor;
In remembrance of me, open the door
And let your neighbor in, let them in.

3) In remembrance of me, search for truth;
In remembrance of me, always love;
In remembrance of me, don't look above,
But in your heart look for God.
Do this in remembrance of me.

The Invitation to Communion – follow as attached from the UMH, Musical Setting D, pg.23-24

L: The Lord be with you

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts

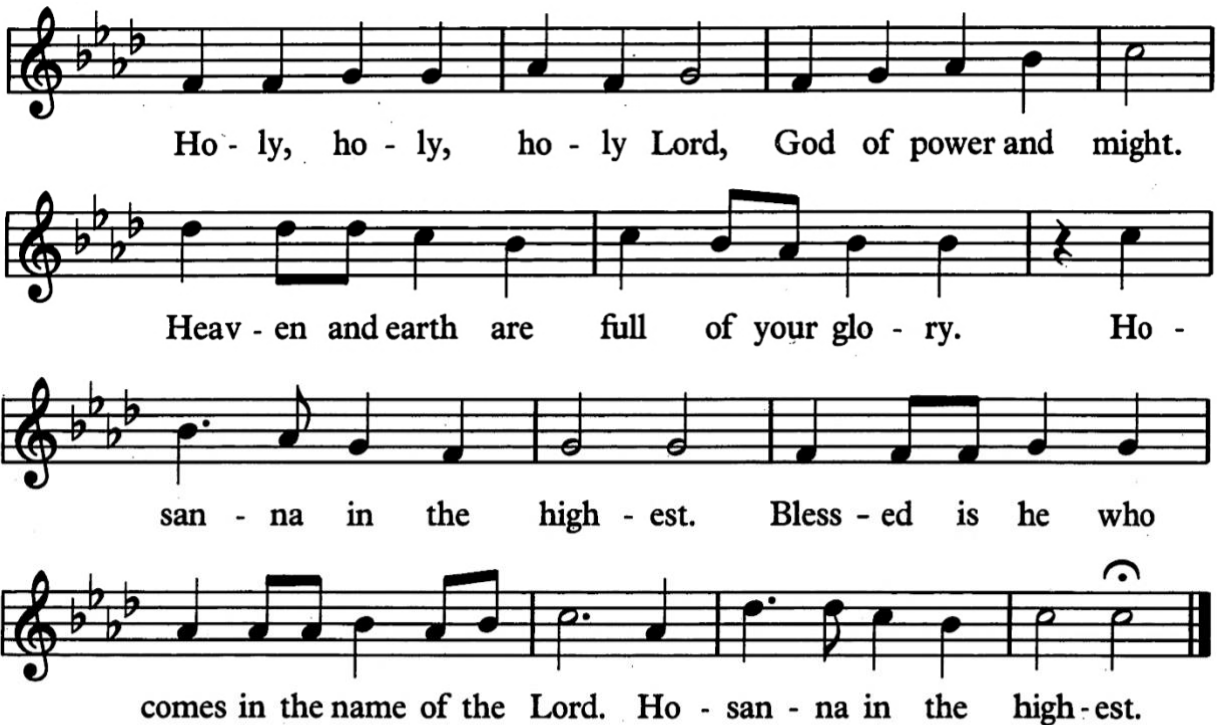
P: We lift them up to the Lord

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image, delivered us from captivity, and made covenant to be our sovereign God. You fed us manna in the wilderness and gave grapevines to evidence the promised land. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P:



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The final note of the fourth staff is a whole note with a fermata.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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L: Holy are you, and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ. When we had turned aside from your way and abused your gifts, you gave us in Christ your crowning gift. Emptying himself, that our joy might be full, he fed the hungry, healed the sick, ate with the scorned and forgotten, washed his disciples' feet, and gave a holy meal as a pledge of his abiding presence.

On this very night, while they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, gave it to the disciples and said: "Take; eat; this is my body given for you."

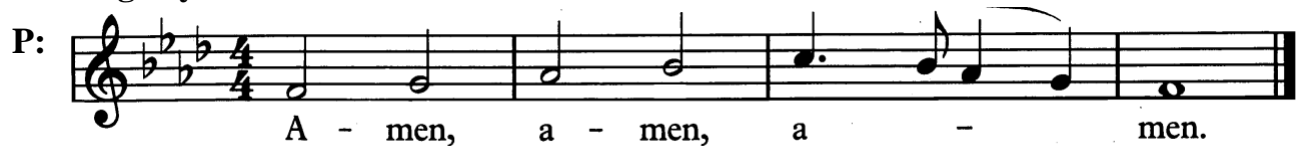
And then he took a cup and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying: "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you do this, remember me. Truly I tell you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom."

And so, in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Christ Jesus, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them hold for us the body and blood of Christ; that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through your son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together...

P: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.



*The Sacrament of Holy Communion

All are welcome to the table of Christ, including children. You do not need to be a member of this congregation to enjoy the grace of the Sacrament. You may come forward via the center aisle and (for continued safety following the pandemic) pick up a plastic cup containing a fragment of bread and a small cup of grape juice from the tables on either side at the front. Gluten-free wafers are available in marked containers. Return to your seats via the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward, we are pleased to bring communion to you after the congregation has finished coming forward. We will all partake of the bread and juice together when everyone has been served. Please leave your plastic waste in the pew for recycling following the worship service.

Special Music for Communion: “Just As I Am”

by William Bradbury; arr. Malcolm Kogut

Reading #4: Peter’s Denial Foretold – Mark 14:26-31

Bill Cowdry

Reading #5: Jesus Prays at Gethsemane – Mark 14:32-42

Evie Kraynak

Reading #6: Jesus Is Arrested – Mark 14:43-50

Roger Spann

Bell Anthem: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

arr. Julie Turner

Reading #7: Jesus’ Trial – Mark 14:53-65

Anne Marks-Gaertner

Reading #8: Peter Denies Jesus – Mark 14:66-72

Ed Cunningham

Reading #9: Jesus Before Pilate – Mark 15:1-5

Peg Wilken

Choral Anthem: “*Before the Cross of Jesus*”

by F.Q Blanchard/ F.C. Maker; arr. Gilbert M. Martin

*Before the cross of Jesus, our lives are judged today;
The meaning of our eager strife is tested by his way.
Across our restless living, the light streams from his cross,
And by its clear, revealing beams we measure gain and loss.*

*The hopes that lead us onward, the fears that hold us back;
Our will to dare great things for God, the courage that we lack;
The faith we keep in goodness, our love, as low or pure;
On all, the judgement of the cross falls steady, clear, and sure.*

*Yet humbly, in our striving, O God, we face its test;
We crave the power to do your will with him who did it best;
On us, let now the healing of his great Spirit fall,
And make us brave and full of joy to answer to his call.*

Reading #10: Jesus or Barabbas – Mark 15:6-15

Cal Mott

Reading #11: Jesus Mocked – Mark 15:16-22

Carla Piazza-Wistehuff

Reading #12: The Crucifixion of Jesus – Mark 15:21-32

Roger Spann

Bell Anthem: “*I Wonder As I Wander*”

by John Niles; arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die.
For poor, ornery people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.*

Reading #13: The Death of Jesus – Mark 15:33-41

Pastor Brad Terhune

Reading #14: The Burial of Jesus – Mark 15:42-47

Pastor Amy Terhune

Hymn UMH #290: “*Go To Dark Gethsemane*”

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| 1) Go to dark Gethsemane,
Ye that feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with him one bitter hour.
Turn not from his griefs away;
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray. | 3) Calvary's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
Learn of Jesus Christ to die. |
| 2) See him at the judgment hall,
Beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall!
O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn of Christ to bear the cross. | 4) Early hasten to the tomb
Where they laid his breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom.
Who has taken him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes;
Savior, teach us so to rise. |

The Stripping of the Altar

*The final act of Tenebrae is the stripping of the altar and silence,
to symbolize the stark reality of Christ's sacrifice for love of humankind.*

*Depart in Silence



First United Methodist Church

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..... pastoralbt@outlook.com / (989) 274-6363 (cell phone)
Office Administrator/Treasurer Dina Draper
Custodian Tina Castle
Organist Bryan Latimer
Director of Music & Chancel Choir Rod Bieber
Bell Choir Director Catherine McMichael
Nursery Supervisors Karissa Schultz
Audio Visual Technicians Andy Sharrow, Angie Smith, Izzy Terhune

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HOLY WEEK and UPCOMING EVENTS

Good Friday Worship – Friday, March 29
12:00-12:30pm and 12:30-1:00pm
Come for one service or stay for both!
Sack lunches provided.



Easter Celebration Worship
Sunday, March 31, 2024 – 10:00am
Come early or stay late for Coffee Hour