

*The people may be seated.*

### **STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH**

*All linens, paraments, and communion vessels are removed from the worship space. The hymn will end and we will sit in silence. The stripping is the church's sorrow over Christ's death, the paring down of the self in order to receive the life of Christ, the final stripping away of our own life before death.*

*After the stripping of the church, all depart in silence.*

**There is no benediction.**

**Worship continues on Good Friday.**

### **A Note on Maundy Thursday**

Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, Latin for commandment) proclaims Jesus' new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ's example of humble service and self-offering, represented by the washing of feet and the sharing of communion. The liturgy begins with an emphasis on confession and forgiveness, concluding the penitential season of Lent. It ends with the stripping of the church in preparation for worship on Good Friday. – *The Book of Common Worship, 2018*



*First Presbyterian Church*

311 South High Street, Henderson, TX 75652

903-657-2529

Fpchendersontx.org

We're on FaceBook!



# The Great Three Days: Holy Thursday

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 2019

The liturgy of the Three Days declares one story in three parts. The worship services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are best understood as three parts of one service, beginning on Thursday and ending on Easter. Together they are a transforming event as we explore the holy mystery that is God's saving love.

**Worship begins.**

## Gathering

Jesus said: 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.

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

(each person prays silently)

*Merciful Creator, Forgiving Redeemer, and Abundant Sustainer, We kneel before your cross in humility and awe. May we rise your faithful followers, sharing your good news always and all ways. Amen.*

**PRELUDE**

Selected

**WELCOME**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

**\*INTROIT #203**

*"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" (v.1&4)*

Colvin, 1969

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
*slow to anger and abounding in love.*  
This is our new commandment in Christ:  
*As Jesus loves us, let us love one another.*

Beloved people of God:

This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered himself to those who would kill him, setting us free from sin and death forever. This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to wash the disciples' feet, showing us how to love and serve one another. This is the day when Christ, the bread of heaven, shared a holy meal with his followers, offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

**\*HYMN #836**

*"Abide with Me"*

Lyte, 1847

Keep us faithful in your service  
until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we shall feast with all your saints  
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
now and forever. *Amen.*

**LORD'S PRAYER - Unison**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

*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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

We give you thanks that on the night of his arrest  
Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this in remembrance of me.

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

Selected

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - Unison**

*God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of our Savior. As you have nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim your great love for the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

## Sending

**\*HYMN #221**

*"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"*

Alexander, 1830

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, your Son.  
In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh  
and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.  
He lived as one of us,  
knowing joy and sorrow.  
He healed the sick,  
fed the hungry,  
welcomed sinners,  
and proclaimed good news to the poor.

Dying on the cross,  
he gave himself for the life of the world.  
Rising from the grave,  
he won for us victory over death.  
Seated at your right hand,  
he reigns with you in glory  
and will come again to make all things new.

Remembering the risen Christ,  
we take from your creation this bread and wine  
as we live for the day of his coming.  
With thanksgiving we offer you now  
the sacrifice of our lives,  
for great is the mystery of faith.

***When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord  
until he comes in glory.***

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ  
and with all who share this feast,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

In union with your Church in heaven and on earth,  
we pray, O God, that you will fulfill your eternal purpose  
in us and in all the world.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Liturgist - John Tieken

O God, your love is embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal. Wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

### **CONFESSION**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence let us confess our sin before God and one another, first in silence, then in unison.

### **SILENT REFLECTION**

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.***

### **LORD HAVE MERCY**

Kyrie Eleison

***“Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”***

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. ***Thanks be to God.***

### **\*GLORIA PATRI**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.***

### **\* BLESSING, TO CONCLUDE LENTEN DEDICATIONS - Unison**

***O Lord, at the conclusion of our Lenten Dedications and this particular season of turning our attention more towards you, we ask that you uphold us by your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in us your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.***

### **ANTHEM**

***“Here at Thy Table Lord”***  
*(Chancel Choir)*

# Word

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Exodus 12:1-7, 11-14 Bibles,p.56/LG.p.72

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 Bibles,p.163/LG.p.211

We proclaim Christ crucified- the wisdom and power of God. *Thanks be to God.*

HYMN #202 “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare” Green, 1973

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE John 13:1-17, 31b-35 Bibles, p.101/ LG. p.131

Happy are those who delight in God’s word. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON Rev. Michele R. Goff

## DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we bend our knees and lift up our hearts, giving glory to God forever. *Amen.*

# Response

\*HYMN #215 “What Wondrous Love Is This” Young, 1965

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison

*The Affirmation of Faith is from Philippians 2:5-11*

*Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.*

## RITUAL OF WASHING

HAND WASHING HYMN #294 “Within Our Darkest Night” Taize, 1991

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

Our response this evening is: *hear our prayer.*

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

Selected

## \*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION - Unison

*You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts— and use our lives— to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor, and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## \*INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me: for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Christ calls us to the table, where there is room for everyone and plenty for all.

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit of God be with you all. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to God.*

Give thanks to our God! *All our thanks, all our praise!*

*The people may be seated.*

It is truly right and our greatest joy to praise you,  
O God, creator of the universe.

In your wisdom, you made all things  
and sustain them by your power.

You formed us in your image to love and serve you  
and to live in peace with your creation.

When we rebelled against you,  
you did not abandon us,  
but sent prophets to call us back to your way.

Then in the fullness of time,  
you sent your only Son

to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore we join our voices with the choirs of heaven  
and with all the faithful of every time and place  
who forever praise your name:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.*