



Friends Church

An Open & Affirming Congregation



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9, 2020

7:30pm

Online

WELCOME

We are honored that you have chosen to spend your Sunday morning with us.

Friends Congregational Church is an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of our church—people of all ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Thursday of Holy Week commemorates Jesus washing his disciples' feet and sharing the Last Supper with them before he would be betrayed and arrested. Maundy comes from the Latin 'mandatum' (command) from Jesus telling his disciples that night, "A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also must love one another."

Words in **BOLD** are yours to speak out loud

Quote for Meditation: "Jesus calls us to continue his mission of revealing the perfect love of God in this world. He calls us to total self-giving. He does not want us to keep anything for ourselves. Rather, he wants our love to be as full, as radical, and as complete as his own. He wants us to bend ourselves to the ground and touch the places in each other that most need washing. He also wants us to say to each other, 'Eat of me and drink of me.' By this complete mutual nurturing, he wants us to become one body and one spirit, united by the love of God." —Clarence Jordan

INTRODUCTION TO ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Israelites cried out to God in their oppression.

***Many:* Their voices still echo around the globe:
in India, Sudan, Mexico, and in American cities.**

One: God hears the cries of the suffering,
and delivers those who wait on God.

***Many:* All who suffer, who die, who are alienated
are precious to God;
Let us love the Lord who restores liberty,
And gives us hope for peace.**

One: Tonight, we remember the One who gave himself for us,
Jesus the Christ.

***Many:* Let us worship God!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

LISTENING FOR GOD IN THE STORIES OF OUR TRADITION

A NEW COMMANDMENT FROM JESUS: SERVANT LEADERSHIP

GOSPEL READING — John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (NRSV)

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon

Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 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. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 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."

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

THE ACT OF HAND- OR FOOT-WASHING

SUNG RESPONSE — "What Wondrous Love Is This," v. 1

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!

COMMUNITY AND COMMUNION: GOD IN OUR MIDST

EPISTLE READING — 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NRSV)

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he

broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

THE OBSERVANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SUNG RESPONSE — "What Wondrous Love Is This," v. 2

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

THE STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

GOSPEL READING – Mark 14:32-42 (NRSV)

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

BENEDICTION

SUNG RESPONSE — "What Wondrous Love Is This," v. 3

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

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Instrumental Music:

Prelude: My Peace I Give You - Barbara J. Heastings

Please Join Us for Livestreamed Good Friday and Easter Sunday Services!

Please join us via our website and Facebook page in livestream worship this Holy Week for Good Friday on Friday, April 10th at 7:30pm and Easter Sunday on Sunday, April 12th at 11am.

Stay Connected with What's Happening at Friends!

Subscribe to This Week at Friends published every Friday to your email address, and the E-Connection Newsletter published monthly to your email address. You can sign up on our website: www.friends-ucc.org, or email the church office: office@friends-ucc.org.

Please add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

Update Contact Information

If you are not currently receiving Church email correspondence, and would like to, please send a message to the Church office with your name and email address: office@friends-ucc.org, and add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

Tutorial for Using Zoom

For the last couple of weeks we've been gathering online for noonday check-in and prayer times and for midweek evening services via zoom. Zoom is new for many of us, and we might be having a difficult time getting started using it. Here is a helpful YouTube tutorial to walk you through using zoom: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>. Please share this tutorial with anyone having difficulty joining us for our online gatherings.

EPT (Emergency Preparedness Team) Updates

A survey has been sent out by email to everyone on our email list asking for answers to 4 short questions. Your EPT is seeking to identify who might need help (health issues, live alone, etc.) and who might be able to offer help to others (obtain groceries, drive to medical appointments, do phone check in's etc.). We also hope to establish telephone trees by geographic area so we can stay in touch if needed. The survey can be accessed here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JMC75YG>.

Small Business Support

Some members of our congregation own a small business. During these times, we want to "Be the church," and find out how we can provide support to these business owners. If you are a Small Business Owner, please email the office and provide a brief description of your business and let us know how we can support your business (buy gift cards, spread the word to our neighborhoods, etc.). The email address is: office@friends-ucc.org.

How to Help with Family Promise:

Friends Church is one of a handful of congregations that supports Family Promise, a local ministry that assists families enduring homelessness with lodging, meals, and other hospitality essentials to help them get back on their feet. We have the blessing of hosting a family of three April 5-11. Because of COVID-19 measures, rather than supply food for meals in person, we are being asked by Family Promise to give \$150. This will supply meals for the family for the week. The family will purchase what will serve them best. If you would like to help with covering this expense, please make a donation specifying that funds are for "Family Promise host week." Any extra funds will go to assist Family Promise in the future.

FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Vision:

Rooted in the way of Christ, we strive to be a community of God's radical inclusion and extravagant welcome.

Our Mission:

United by the example of Jesus, we live faithfully, love limitlessly, and serve boldly.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Online at 11:00am

FRIENDS CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Dan De Leon, *Senior Pastor*
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