

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**April 1, 2021**

**7:00 PM**

**WELCOME & SHARING OF COMMON CONCERNS**

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Remembering God, teach us to remember You in every moment, with every breath, as we eat and drink. Remind us that we remember Your Child, our beloved Teacher, not only in the prayers we offer and the words we profess, but in deeds of love and generosity. Remind us that we are filled with the wisdom of Your Spirit and, therefore, we are advocates for the oppressed, guiding lights for those in darkness, sustainers of the needy. God, who never forgets us, remind us never to forget You. AMEN

**OPENING HYMN:** "Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed"

Text: Isaac Watts; refrain by Ralph E. Hudson; Music: Anonymous; arr. by Ralph E. Hudson (CCLI: Public Domain)

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| <p><b>1)</b> Alas! and did my Savior bleed,<br/>And did my Sovereign die?<br/>Did he devote that sacred head<br/>For sinners such as I?</p>      | <p><b>3)</b> Well might the sun in darkness hide,<br/>And shut his glories in,<br/>When God, the mighty Maker, died<br/>For man, the creature's sin.</p>      |
| <p><b>2)</b> Was it for crimes that I have done,<br/>He groaned upon the tree?<br/>Amazing pity! Grace unknown!<br/>And love beyond degree!</p>  | <p><b>4)</b> Thus might I hide my blushing face<br/>While his dear cross appears;<br/>Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,<br/>And melt mine eyes to tears.</p> |
| <p><b>5)</b> But floods of grief can ne'er repay<br/>The debt of love I owe.<br/>Here, Lord, I give myself away;<br/>'Tis all that I can do.</p> |   |

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Tonight, we have gathered in the shadow of Jesus' death for the sins of all humankind. We have answered the invitation of a loving God who wills that none of us be lost in our disobedience, self-centeredness, and alienation. Let us pray that all our sins may be wiped away.

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We remember that we are Your people, God of the covenant. And we remember all the ways in which we have not lived as people in covenant with You. We remember that we are disciples of the Sovereign One, who came to serve rather than to be served. And we remember all the ways in which we have used our power to oppress rather than to liberate. We remember that we are temples of Your Spirit, and we remember all the ways we have ignored the word of that Spirit speaking in us. Remind us to remember whose we are, and to act accordingly. Hear our confession as we remember our disobedience.

## **A TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION**

## **UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

God offers us the cup of salvation, not as something we have earned, but as a gift to all who would accept it. The blood of the new covenant is poured out for many. Take and drink! Christ's body is broken for you. Take and eat! Know the costly, healing act by which you are set free from the burden of your sin and offered new life in Christ. Praise God!

**HOLY SCRIPTURES:** Exodus 12:1-14, John 13:1-17, I Corinthians 11:23-28

## **EXODUS 12:1-14**

### **The Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, <sup>2</sup>"This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. <sup>3</sup>Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. <sup>4</sup>If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what

each person will eat. <sup>5</sup>The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. <sup>6</sup>Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. <sup>7</sup>Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. <sup>8</sup>That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. <sup>10</sup>Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. <sup>11</sup>This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD'S Passover.

<sup>12</sup>"On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>"This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD—a lasting ordinance.

## **JOHN 13:1-17**

### **Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet**

<sup>1</sup> It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

<sup>2</sup>The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. <sup>3</sup>Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; <sup>4</sup>so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup>After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

<sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

<sup>8</sup> "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

<sup>9</sup> "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." <sup>11</sup> For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

<sup>12</sup> When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. <sup>13</sup> "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. <sup>17</sup> Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

### **1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-28**

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

<sup>27</sup> So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

**SERMON:** "Table of Grace"

**SHARING THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

By the love of Christ we have been brought together; May we love Him and revere Him, and in love respect each other with sincere hearts. So, when we as one are gathered all together, Let us strive to keep our minds free of division; May there be an end to malice, strife and quarrels, and let Christ, our God be dwelling here among us.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**BENEDICTION:**

We have prayed and broken bread; we have been forgiven and fed. Praise God for the Bread of heaven.

**CLOSING HYMN:** "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

Author: Mary A. Lathbury (1877); Tune: [Break thou the bread of life] (Sherwin)  
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- 1) Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!
- 2) Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.