



Holy Week
Maundy Thursday
April 14, 2022

Prelude: Be Still and Know

Lighting the Christ Candle (Nancy)

Awesome God, as we journey through Holy Week,
we are drawn to the flickering flame.

It burns brightly in our hearts.

Yet, we know that amidst the remembrance of this day,
there are those who want to extinguish the light in us and in Jesus.

May the radiance of Christ's glory shine brightly,
this evening and through the final days Lent.

In the name of the Light of the World, we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship

Come, let us journey with Jesus this evening.

Come, O people, to journey the way of passion.

We travel with heavy hearts.

Come, O people, to journey through shadow and valley.

We travel in trust and in faith.

Come, O people, to journey the way of conviction.

We travel in love and in hope.

Opening Prayer

God of mystery, we gather tonight to remember the story that leads
us into new life.

As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, may we learn to serve one
another.

As we gather at the table, may we be ready for the journey ahead.

Remind us, O God, to love one another—even when doing so is
difficult, even when we want to lash out in anger, even when we
want to ignore those who need us.

We are not in charge.

We are called to serve, to share your love.

Be with us, O God, as we begin the journey that leads us to the cross.

Amen.

Gospel Reading: John 13:12-17, 34-35

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Jesus has always been one to invite.

He said, "Drop your nets and follow me."

He said, "Let the little children come."

He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed."

Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.

So friends, you are invited to the Table. Each and every one of us –
with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes,
our questions – we are invited to God's table.

And here we will be met.

Here we will be fed.

**Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim
with love, overflowing with joy.**

So come.

Not because you must, but because you can.

Come.

You are invited.

This Table is for you.

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of unity and love.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

God who knows us, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up.

We wish that we could be more like you in that way.

In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking.

In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling.

In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating.

We long for these things.

So today we ask you – be with us on the hamster wheel.

Be with us when compassion fatigue rears its head.

Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe.

Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close.

Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language.

Be with us, and show us the way to the life you long for us.

Show us a life of expansive faith.

Show us a life of overflowing joy.

Show us a life of absorbing beauty.

Show us a life of engrossing purpose.

Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

On the night before his death, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke bread, gave it to the disciples, and said,

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to the disciples, and said,

“Drink from this, all of you; this is my life in the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of your life-giving acts of love and grace, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table.

Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst.

So pour out your Spirit on to this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Body of Christ, broken for you.

(Bread is broken.)

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for you.

(Wine is poured.)

Prayer after Communion

God, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out.

Holy One, may we who have been fed at this table remember that we are the body of Christ in the world today.

Open our hearts, fill us with compassion and grace.

Amen.

Postlude: His Eye is on the Sparrow

Worship Leaders – Bill Cantelon and Nancy Walker

Music Leader – Pat Shumka

Technical Support – Peter Gray and Jane Shumka