



*Last Supper, 2009. Artist: Swanson, John August\**

## ***Service for Maundy Thursday***

**April 17, 2025**

**Remembering Christ's Gifts**

*"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

### ***Gathering Around the Word***

#### **Striking of the Hour**

##### **Prelude**

*Vater unser im Himmelreich, Variation 3*

Johann Ulrich Steigleder

##### **Welcome**

##### **Call to Worship**

We gather tonight to tell the old, old story,  
A story of bitterness and betrayal, of despair, denial, and death.  
We gather tonight to tell an even older story prepared before the worlds began:  
A story of love powerful enough to rewrite our endings with the promise of new life.  
In the telling of the story, In the breaking of the bread, in the coming of the night,  
we draw near once more to Christ.

**We tell the story** (responsive)

Wyatt Edmonds

Mark 14: 17-31

When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

**They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"**

"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born." While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

**Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.**

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. "Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

**When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.**

"You will all fall away," Jesus told them, "for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

**Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not."**

"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times."

**But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same.**

**We take the bread and cup (The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper)****Invitation to the Table****Join me in the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Communion Anthem***Man of Mercy*

Robert Wetzler

*All Stand***We tell the story** (responsive)

Keelin Murrell

Mark 14: 32-42

They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

**Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."**

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

**Returning the third time, he said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”**

**We join with Jesus in prayer:**

Jesus prayed. He prayed to the Father he knew and loved, because he was hurting and sad and afraid and because he trusted. So we pray with Jesus. I invite you during the pauses to say the names of those you are praying for aloud or in silence. After each pause, I will say “in your love, Lord,” and you will respond “hear our prayers.”

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

**We tell the story** (responsive)

*Barbara Brindle*

Mark 14: 43-52

Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”

**Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him. The men seized Jesus and arrested him. Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.**

“Am I leading a rebellion,” said Jesus, “that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”

**Then everyone deserted him and fled. A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment.**

**Time of Confession** (unison)

**For every time you asked us to stay with you, and we wandered away, forgive us. For every time we fell asleep on the job of being your disciples, forgive us. For every time we boasted of our loyalty, and crept away, betrayed, or denied you, forgive us. For every time we hear this story, and think “we would do better,” forgive us. For every time we meet your faithfulness, with faithlessness, forgive us. God, your love is so deep, that you would take all our failures, and still love us as friends. May we take the gift of your forgiveness, and share it with the world that you made and loved so much. Amen.**

*A time for silent reflection*

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**We tell the story** (responsive)

*Jermiah Simpson*

Mark 14: 53-65

They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death, but they did not find any.

**Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands.’”**

Yet even then their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?”

**But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer.**



Again, the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" **They all condemned him as worthy of death. Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy!" And the guards took him and beat him.**

Hymn 227

*Jesus, Remember Me*  
(Sung 3 times)

REMEMBER ME

**We tell the story**

*Caroline Wedge*

Mark 14: 66-72

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus," she said. But he denied it.

**"I don't know or understand what you're talking about," he said, and went out into the entryway.**

When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean."

**He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about." Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows twice, you will disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.**

Closing Hymn 228

*Were You There*  
(Verses 1, 2, 5)

WERE YOU THERE

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*  
Beth Pope, piano

PASSION CHORALE

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**\*ARTIST'S NOTE: I am inspired by a person's ability to share food with others and the community that grows from this sharing. I see, in the Last Supper, a scene in which the sacred embraces the ordinary. Our daily bread becomes holy when it is shared. The fruit of our labor becomes the fruit of the Spirit when it is shared. "We cannot love God unless we love each other," says Dorothy Day, "and to love each other we must know each other in the breaking of bread and we are not alone anymore. Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet, too, even with a crust, where there is companionship. Love comes with community."**

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

*We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.*

Communion Servers: *Kelly Goad, Cathey Green, and Larry Warden*

Communion Preparer: *Jean Harris*

**Clerk of Session:** Debbie Trickey    **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

**Elders:** Class of 2025- Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; Class of 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden **Deacons:** Class of 2025- Barbara Brindle, Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey; Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan

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