



Worship for Maundy Thursday

Remembering the Mandate of Christ

April 2, 2026

****Those who are able, please stand.***

7:00 P.M.

WELCOME! We are glad you are worshipping with us on this special night. We pray that you will encounter the Spirit of Jesus here. May we all find hope and assurance in this time spent together.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

THOUGHT-STARTER FOR INDIVIDUAL MEDITATION AND PRAYER

*It would not have been God's Table if "they" hadn't all been gathered around it:
the betrayer and the friend, the power-hungry and the justice seeker,
the faithful and the fickle.*

*When Jesus poured the wine and the bread was broken,
when everyone could eat:
the outcast and the beloved, the arrogant and the gracious,
the wrong-doer and the wrongly-done-by,*

The table became a foretaste of love made real and of a world made whole.

Cheryl Lawrie, "At God's Table"

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsive)*

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who grieve this day, know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.

All: At the Table, we discover God's love for us.

Leader: Come with what you have. For you weighed down by too many 'shoulds' and 'what-ifs,' know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.

All: At the Table, we strengthen our love for God.

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who come seeking, know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.

All: At the Table, we demonstrate our love for each other.

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who have the answers, know that new questions await you.

All: At the Table, we receive God's love for us.

LITURGY OF SCRIPTURE AND SONG

CHRIST'S EXAMPLE AND MANDATE

John 13: 1-5, 31-35

***HYMN**

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”
Verses 1, 3, and 4

No. 738

GATHERED AT THE PASSOVER TABLE

Luke 22: 7-16

WE RECEIVE THE HOLY MEAL

Communion as observed by the Presbyterian Church is open to all who place their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and as a sign of Christ's mercy and grace for each one who wishes they could love the Lord more. The Sacrament (simple bread and a non-alcoholic version of the fruit of the vine) is open to anyone, regardless of age, church membership, or denominational affiliation. This evening, the pattern for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper gives you two options:

The Elders will bring the Communion elements into the rows, and you can partake when you receive them, OR

Worshippers are invited to come forward, receive a piece from the loaf, dip it into the cup, and receive both the bread and the juice together. Then return to your places using the outside aisles.

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Praise to You, Lord Jesus.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim Your death, Lord Jesus.
We remember Your death.
We trust Your resurrection.
We await the day You come to us in glory.**

WE RECEIVE THE GRACIOUS GIFT OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Communion Music

“Trois Gnessiennes”

Satie

PRAYER OF RESPONSE *(Responsive)*

Leader: Great and holy God, You have fed us through the ages,

All: and You have fed us tonight.

Leader: Keep us satisfied by Your love

All: and hungry for Your presence.

Leader: Quench our aches with Your peace

All: and help us thirst for justice.

Leader: Comfort us with the company of all the saints

All: and stir in us a longing to welcome others.

Leader: Above all, help us follow Your mandate:

All: You command us to love one another as You have loved us.

In Your mercy and in Your power, inspire us to do exactly that.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our sacrificial Lamb; Amen.

WE ENACT THE STORY OF A PROFOUND NIGHT

AFTER THE SUPPER

Mark 14: 25-42

HYMN

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

No. 220

Verses 1 and 3

THE ARREST OF JESUS

Mark 14: 43-50

THE SANCTUARY IS STRIPPED

recalling Mark 15: 16-20

WE DEPART SILENTLY INTO THE NIGHT

POSTLUDE

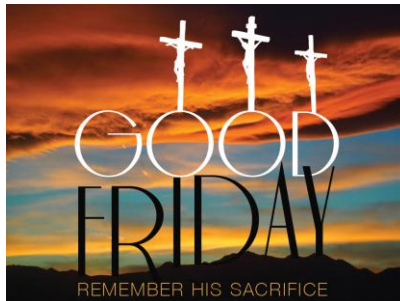
*This worship experience continues with the Good Friday Vigil,
our personal reflections, and the Easter celebration.*



THE LENTEN PRAYER STATIONS at the front of this Sanctuary will be available after the service for anyone who would like to walk through them and do any of the participatory activities: Give / Fast / Pray.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PERSONAL PRAYER OR BLESSING, the pastor will be in the Parlor shortly after this service ends. (Go out the front-right door of the Sanctuary, turn right, and go halfway down the hall.) This will be an optional opportunity for a prayer request or a brief conversation.

GOOD FRIDAY: Spend time on Good Friday to meditate during this solemn day. On **Friday, April 3**, we will hold a vigil from **noon to 2:00 p.m.** to honor the death of our Savior. At **2:00 p.m.** we will have a special **Good Friday service**. The congregation is invited to experience this event in part or in its entirety. Invite someone to join us.



FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES MOVES TO THE SECOND SUNDAY: The next speaker will be Meghan DeGregory, part of the founding team and the Executive Director of Thrive 10:10, a nonprofit organization in Girard. Thrive 10:10 focuses on providing relief and individual resource building through community outreach programs. Some programs include Ruth's Boutique Lunch and Learn, which offers hygiene and beauty products as well as meals and learning opportunities to families in need and Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World and Staying Ahead, which builds individual resources. She is also a Nationally Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor as well as a National Consultant instructor for Bridges Out of Poverty. Meghan is the Ministry Coordinator at Girard First United Methodist Church and loves to write and share the important connections between faith and mental health. Join us for this inspiring speaker on **Sunday, April 12, at 11:15 a.m.** in the Parlor.