

Community Maundy Thursday Service

April 2, 2026

7:00 p.m.

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.

Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

Hymnals: **UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

We Gather

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

A Wilderness Wandering People W&S 3113, v.1

We are a wilderness wandering people on a journey of the soul.

May we find our destination in our longing to be whole.

Our Holy God is calling to us.

With Jesus by our side may compassion be our compass;

may the Spirit be our guide.

EVENING GREETING *Come Thursday* Thom M Shuman

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP Joanna Harader

We are Jesus' disciples,
following him even as he moves toward the cross.

Even as he wraps a towel around his waist.

Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.

We are Jesus' disciples,
longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

**Even as betrayers loom. Even as the powers that oppose the way
of Christ press in around us.**

We are Jesus' disciples,
struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us.

**We are Jesus' disciples, gathered here to worship God,
the Great I AM: known in The Bread of Life, The Light of the World,
The Good Shepherd, The True Vine, and The Way, in which we
know our Creator, our Redeemer, and our Sustainer.**

*HYMN OF INVITATION

Oh Master, Let Me Walk with Thee UMH 430, vs. 1-3

EVENING PRAYER Reggie M. Kidd

Eternal God, blessed is your son Jesus,
who on that night before Passover,
rose from the Supper, laid aside his garments
took a towel and poured water,
and washed his disciples' feet, saying to them:
"I AM, your Lord and Teacher, as I have washed your feet,
you also ought to wash one another's feet.

If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

**Come now, mighty Spirit of God,
wash us and make us one body in Christ,
that, as we are bound together in this act of love,
that we may no longer be in bondage
to the principalities and powers that enslave creation,
but may know your liberating peace
such as the world cannot give. Amen.**

The Upper Room

PASSOVER BEGINS *John 13:1-5* Pew Bible, NT ??

REFLECTION *Feet* Louise Gough

PRAYER OF REFLECTION Ann Siddall

...I am touched by you and made clean.
**We are here together, near the ground,
and in this humble position I am touched by you
and made clean. Amen.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE *Jesu, Jesu* UMH 432, vs. 1, 4, 5

WORDS OF REFUSAL *John 13:6-11* Pew Bible, NT ??

REFLECTION *Foot Washing – Three Takes* Louise Gough

PETER

JUDAS

JESUS

REFLECTIVE PRAYER *Let You Wash My Feet!* Elizabeth Clark

"I AM," YOUR LORD & TEACHER *John 13:12-17* Pew Bible, NT ??

REFLECTION *A Night of Wonder* Ruth Burgess

TALK OF BETRAYAL *John 13: 18-26a* Pew Bible, NT ??

At The Table

INVITATION Thom Shuman

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You kneel to wash our feet Lord, yet we are reluctant to reveal
the gnarly and callus places of our hearts. You bathe us in the
warm, living waters of your love, even though we splash and play in
the puddles of temptation.**

**Forgive us Lord, and have mercy on us. What can we give you for
all your wonderful graciousness towards us? As you have broken
your heart for us, may we open ours in service to others. As you
have given your life for us, may we offer ours to bring healing to
the world. As you have called us together around your Table,**

**may we go forth to feed a world hungry, not only for food, but for
that Spirit which brings peace and reconciliation. This we pray as
servants of Jesus Christ, who came to serve us in life, in death, and
in resurrection hope. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND GRACE

On this holiest of nights, God has come in Christ Jesus, to bathe us in
grace and mercy and fill us with hope and peace.

**So, in remembrance, we choose
to bring hope where despair resides;
to be servants to those who are broken;
to love as selflessly as we are loved by Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Teacher. Amen.**

ANTHEM *And We Remember*
Chancel Choir

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

May the God of last suppers be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts to God this night.

We open them to the One whose heart is broken this night.

In the midst of uncertainty and fears, we will praise God

**Our thanks are offered to the One
who walks and waits with us through long nights.**

...forever singing your praises:

...we join together of every time and place sharing your praises:

Holy, holy, holy are you, foot-washing God.

We join heaven and earth in praising your holy name.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who became a servant.

The Bread of Life, The Light of the World, The Good Shepherd,

The True Vine, and The Way.

Hosanna in the highest.

...we remember that mystery called faith:

In remembrance, we mourn Christ's death;

In remembrance, we look to the Day of Resurrection;

In remembrance, we await his return to us.

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

***SHARING THE LAST SUPPER**

Communion will be served in groups of 12 (11+1 host). You are invited to come to the chapel in groups of 11 around the table. The host will begin to pass the bread around the table, saying: *“This is Christ’s body broken for you.”* The host will then pass the chalice saying: *“This is Christ’s blood shed for you as a new covenant. Do this in remembrance of me.”* You are invited to dip your matzo into the chalice and partake. Then pass the chalice to your neighbor. A blessing will be shared by the host before all are invited to return to their seats.

Music During Communion:

- You Feed Us, Gentle Savior* W&S 3169
- In Remembrance of Me* TFWS 2254
- Take Our Bread* UMH 640

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Nolan Williams, Jr.

You knew your hour had come.
You knew your betrayer.
You knew your enemies.
You knew that the straw vote would not be in your favor.
But you loved unto the end.

Thank you for loving us, even unto death.

Teach us to love like you love.

Teach us to love each other, to love even our enemies, like you loved us.

On that solemn evening,
you surrounded yourself with friends and enemies,
persons of faith and persons of ill-will.

Help us to be able to always emulate you when we are surrounded by our friends and especially when we are surrounded by our enemies.

You have established a “new commandment;”
help us to live it out in every moment, in every aspect of our lives,
in our families, in our churches, in our communities,
and throughout the world.

On this Holy Night, we gathered to remember again the miracle that you performed in our lives at great cost to you.

Thank you for your love and grace. Amen.

The Night Continues

JUDAS DEPARTS *John 13:26b-30* Pew Bible, NT ??

LISTENING PRAYER Joanne Harader

**Lord Jesus,
We have washed each other’s feet, but we are not clean.
We struggle to follow you, but it is hard.
Send your Holy Spirit to walk with us as we walk with you
down the dark road that leads to the cross. Amen.**

A COMMANDMENT *John 13:31b-35* Pew Bible, NT ??

HYMN OF RESPONSE *O Jesus, I Have Promised* UMH 396

A DECLARATION *John 13:36-38* Pew Bible, NT ??

HYMN OF DEDICATION *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* TFWS 2112, vs. 1

**Jesus walked this lonesome valley;
He had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;
He had to walk it by himself.**

REFLECTION *We Should Have Been There for Him* Kathy Crawford

BLESSING Clare McBeath & Tim Presswood

***STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY**

At this point in the service all decorations and signs of celebration are removed from the sanctuary. The practice dates from the 7th century and originally served the practical purpose of cleaning the sanctuary in preparation for Easter, when all things are made new. In time, however, the practice became ceremonial. In silence, communion vessels, cloths, and all liturgical objects are sensitively removed, thus dramatizing the desolation, abandonment, and darkness of the long night in Gethsemane that led into the passion and death of our Lord. The Sanctuary remains bare until the Easter celebration. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors. Christ has now been arrested, the hopes of his followers have been destroyed, the future is uncertain, there is nothing to do but wait...

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At this point, Christ is to be arrested, the hopes of his followers are destroyed, the future is uncertain, there is nothing to do but wait...

***Go into the silence of the night,
and return tomorrow to follow Jesus to the Cross.***

Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Shadows at 7:00 p.m., April 3rd

We invite you to return on Easter as we Celebrate New Life...

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Communion Service in the Prayer Garden
In Person & Online

9:30 a.m. Family Easter Celebration
Online & In Person Worship

Special Music, Word, Meditation and Communion
as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This service will also include a special message for our Youngest Disciples.

11:00 a.m. Easter Celebration
In Person Worship

Hymns, Word, Meditation and Communion
as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

The Thursday before Easter is called Holy Thursday or **Maundy Thursday**. The word “**Maundy**,” according to some authorities, is derived from *mande* (Old French, from the Latin, *mandatum*, meaning “a command”). In John 13:34 Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment.”

This annual holy day, Maundy Thursday, began with the celebration of Passover and included Christ’s washing of the feet of his disciples and his command to follow his example, as told in John 13:4-16. The meal, partaken by Christ and his disciples, was the initiation of one of the most important ceremonies of the church, The Lord’s Supper, The Last Supper, or The Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The events of this night appear in all four gospels: Matthew 26:17-29, Mark 14:12-25, Luke 22:1-23, and John 13:1-30.

Tonight, we will focus on John 13 as we continue our Lenten Worship Series: *The God We Can Know: Exploring the “I Am” Sayings of Jesus*. Over the past six weeks we have heard Jesus say: *I Am the Bread of Life, I Am the Light of the World, I Am the Good Shepherd, I Am the True Vine, and I Am the Way*. Tonight we hear the Lord and Teacher show us what it means to be a servant that engages in the commandment to *Love One Another* as Christ loves us.

We welcome Pastor David Geller and the Wayside UMC in this community service. We thank all those participating in tonight’s service. Welcome to this Holy Night.