



HIGHLANDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 28, 2024

6:30 P.M. SERVICE



The Last Supper by Ivan Guaderrama

Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the great Easter celebration. The word “maundy” is derived from the Latin word *mandatum*, the first word of the Latin phrase “*Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos*” (“A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you”), the statement used by Jesus in John’s gospel to explain the significance of washing the disciples’ feet. Maundy Thursday is also the night that Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper with the words, “Do this in remembrance of me.” As a way to remember the final events that night, the service concludes with the Stripping of the Altar during which all the worship articles and adornments are removed from the altar. This symbolizes both the suspension of Holy Communion, which is not celebrated on Good Friday, and the abandonment and humiliation of Jesus Christ.

During the season of Lent, the crosses carried in our processions and on the altar are draped in purple, the color of repentance and preparation. The crosses will remain draped from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, the cloth will change to red, and will remain through Maundy Thursday in preparation for Jesus's crucifixion. On Good Friday, the crosses will be draped in black, symbolizing Jesus' earthly death. On Easter Sunday, the crosses will be uncovered or draped in white, in celebration of the resurrection. Lent, Passion, and Easter are the only times the crosses are draped in the liturgical year. This reminds us of the redemptive purpose of Jesus' suffering (purple), crucifixion (red), death (black), and resurrection (white), which these liturgical seasons commemorate. The rest of the year the cross is uncovered to assure us that Jesus is risen.

ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

PREACHING – LESLIE WILLIAMS

LITURGISTS – THE REVEREND MIKAH HUDSON, REGGIE HOLDER

CHOIRMASTER AND ORGANIST – RICHARD PHILLIPS

VERGER – BRIAN BELLENGER

***Congregation please stand. Words in bold are spoken or sung by the congregation.**

Serving for Altar Guild: Nancy Hill, Donna Sibley • Serving as Ushers: Todd Edmondson, Kirk Smith

Serving as Crucifier: Dylan Higgs • Serving as Lay Reader: Karen Holton

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

PRELUDE

Fantasia in G Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

BWV 542

“My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.” Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” – Matthew 26:39b-41

***SOLEMN PROCESSION**

***HYMN 623**

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee

PENITENTIA

Verses 1-3

***CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God’s Spirit.

Most merciful God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

***KYRIE** (*Sung by The Choir*)

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

COLLECT FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray: Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the sacrament of his body and blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PSALTER

Psalm 116:1-8

Anglican Chant: William Crotch (1775-1847)

The Choir

Dilexi, quoniam

¹I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

²The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.

³Then I called upon the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray you, save my life."

⁴Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

⁵The Lord watches over the innocent; I was brought very low, and he helped me.

⁶Turn again to your rest, O my soul, for the Lord has treated you well.

⁷For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

⁸I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

May these words reveal Christ to us. Thanks be to God..

*SEQUENCE HYMN 616

Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast

HURSLEY

Verses 1 & 4

*GOSPEL LESSON

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Lesson

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

Leslie Williams

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reggie Holder

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Musical Communion Setting C: Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

*THE PEACE

The Lord Jesus, after he had supped with his disciples and washed their feet, said to them, "I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; peace which the world cannot give, I give to you. Love one another, as I have loved you."

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.

Reconciled by God's love, let us offer one another signs of peace and reconciliation.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

The Choir

*Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Ti me amus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est. Amen.*

TRANSLATION: Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in him. Let us fear and let us love the living God. And let us love him with a sincere heart.

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Text, Traditional Latin

*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD 100TH

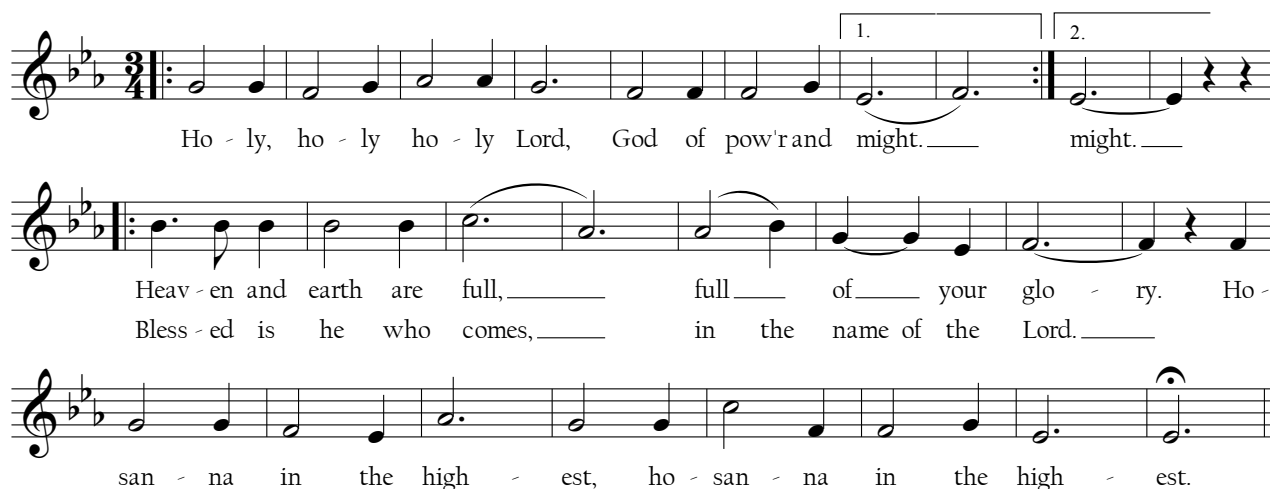
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. _____ might. _____

Heav - en and earth are full, _____ full _____ of _____ your glo - ry. Ho -
Bless - ed is he who comes, _____ in the name of the Lord. _____

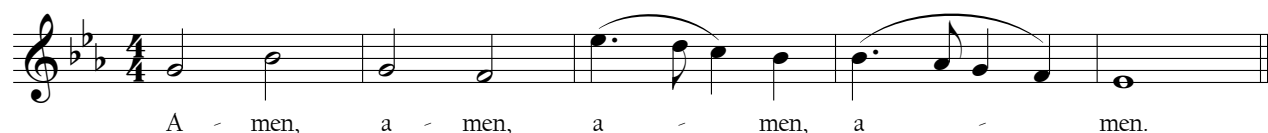
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died, _____ Christ is ris - en, Christ _____ will come a - gain.

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore gracious Lord, so to receive the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

*Agnus Dei
The Choir*

Franz Schubert

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.*

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Reflecting our conviction that God's grace is for all people, everyone is invited to the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers to receive the sacrament. Holy Communion will be served by intinction; clergy will dip the bread into the cup and place in congregants' hands. Congregants are welcome to kneel at the chancel rail for prayer before returning to their seats.

COMMUNION HYMN 292

*What Wondrous Love Is This
Verses 1 & 3*

WONDROUS LOVE

ORGAN SOLO

Chorale Prelude on UBI CARITAS

Gerald Near (b. 1956)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The Reverend Mikah Hudson

This service concludes with the removal of the paraments and worship articles from the altar and chancel in preparation for Good Friday, leaving this holy space bare and unadorned. Members of the congregation are invited to come forward without direction to take chancel items from worship leaders and remove them to the table in the Greeting Space. Congregants are welcome to re-enter the Sanctuary for silent prayer and meditation.

*HYMN 296

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle
Verses 1-4*

PICARDY

Organ Improvisation: Noel Rawsthorne

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 22:47-53

While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Organ Improvisation on O Sacred Head Now Wounded

All are asked to leave in silence.



Highlands

Holy Week Services

Good Friday – March 29

NOON – Liturgy for Good Friday in the Sanctuary

A quiet, solemn service of scripture and song recalling the final day of Jesus' earthly life. This service typically lasts no longer than 50 minutes, perfect for working professionals. Rev. Jeff Bayne will be our guest preacher.

6:30 PM – Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary

The service of Tenebrae, from the Latin meaning “darkness,” makes use of gradually diminishing light, scripture readings, and sacred music to symbolize the events of Jesus' last week on earth. The service concludes in total darkness, as the Christ candle is taken from the Sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus.

Easter Sunday – March 31

9:00 am Service of Holy Communion for Children and Families in the Sanctuary

A joyful, abbreviated worship service of scripture, song, and Holy Communion – perfect for families with young children. A nursery is available for children age 4 and younger.

10:30 AM Service of Holy Communion with Orchestra in the Sanctuary

A joyful worship experience celebrating the resurrection in scripture, beautiful music enhanced by chamber orchestra, and Holy Communion. The Atrium will be open for children age 3 through 5th grade; students will rejoin the congregation for the communion liturgy. A nursery is available for children age 4 and younger.

All Are Welcome!



WELCOME TO HIGHLANDS!

ALL ARE WELCOME



A Reconciling Congregation with the Reconciling Ministries Network – rmnetwork.org

Highlands United Methodist Church is a community of disciples of Christ; a beacon of hope, inviting all to become new persons in Christ to be sent into the world to share the Gospel and to serve our neighbors; and a sanctuary for those in need of God's love and grace.

Highlands United Methodist Church affirms that nothing can separate anyone from the love of God. We invite all to worship, wonder, and discover God's grace as we aspire to create a safe space for all to participate fully in the life of this community of faith. We are called to shine as a beacon of hope, grace, belonging, and respect for all people. Regardless of age, gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family, financial status, nationality, physical or mental ability, past or future, there is room for you at Highlands.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The message of the Hebrew prophets, Jesus, Paul, and the early church was always a message of welcome and inclusion for all. The image of God's kingdom is of something small and insignificant growing into something larger and of great significance. The oppressed, the alien, and the outcast were all welcomed, included, and cared for. In this sense, our faith is built upon the idea of gracious hospitality. Followers of Jesus are not about walls of exclusion but bridges of grace and acceptance. Ours is a faith of invitation, for all to come to know Jesus as the living Christ who overcomes all brokenness, sin, and even death, offering a way to make all things new. This invitation extends to you. If you desire to explore what this means for you, please speak to a member of the clergy after the service or sometime this week. We welcome the opportunity to visit with you.

OFFERING

Cash or Check Giving:

- Giving envelopes are available in the pew racks.
- Checks may be made payable to HUMC.

Electronic Giving:

- Text GIVE to 205-900-3040. A link will be provided for a simple, quick way to give with one click.
- Visit www.highlandsumc.net/giving to give using a debit card, credit card, or bank account.

Sustainable Giving:

- To set up automatic monthly bank drafts, contact financial manager Tyra Johnson-Pirtle at finance@highlandsumc.net.



SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR MOBILE
DEVICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S
HAPPENING AT HIGHLANDS!

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