

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROYAL OAK

MARCH 28, 2024 | 7PM

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Maundy Thursday



fpcro

*Spirituality | Service | Sharing*

## Prelude

“Prelude on the plainchant *Humbly We Adore Thee*”

Gerald Near

©1996 Aureole Editions (Admin. MorningStar Music Publishers)

## Welcome

### ◇ Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

One: The Lord said to Moses in the land of Egypt

**All: “over this meal, remember.”**

One: Jesus said to his disciples in Jerusalem,

**All: “over this meal, remember.”**

One: This night, over this meal, we remember the Lord

**All: who never forsakes the people of God.**

One: This night, in the garden, we wait for the Lord

**All: whose love knows no bounds.**

### ◇ Hymn #274

“An Upper Room with Evening Lamps”

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith ©1988 Hope Publishing Co.

### ◇ Opening Prayer

**All: Gracious God, we gather here to break bread and drink from the cup together, as we remember and give thanks for this meal and for your most precious gift of Jesus, the bread of life. We live by your bread, and by your every word. Keep us hungry for your heavenly food that it may nourish us. Through your Holy Spirit, open ears to your words in the readings, music, and sacrament tonight, so that we may be fed by your light, your truth, your freedom, and your peace. Amen.**

## **The Passover Feast of Jesus and His Disciples—Mark 14:12-16**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 52*

## **Jesus Foretells Betrayal—Mark 14:17-21**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 52*

### **Prayer of Confession**

**All: Dear God, this is a night we remember what it is to be betrayed and denied by those who were supposed to be friends. Sometimes we are the ones who give up on our friends, or give our friends over to things that will harm them. We meet the suffering of others with trite answers in order to distance ourselves from their pain. We fail to love ourselves as you love us, tending our own pain and distress by numbing our feelings instead of drawing close to you; the source of our well-being. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to follow you into a life of love and service. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

One: The love of God is sure and certain. We see it clearly at the table. We see it clearly when Jesus washes his disciples' feet.

**All: We give thanks for the grace of Christ and the love that restores us.**

## **Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet—John 13:1-17**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 111*

## **Anthem**

## **“Remember Me”**

*Deborah Governor*

*~Chancel Choir*

*“In the night our Savior was betrayed, He broke the bread and to His friends He said: “Take and eat, this is my body given for you; take and drink, this blood of mine is shed for you. Do this always to remember me.” In the night in which our Savior was denied, He bowed His head, and to the Father cried: “if it be your will, let this cup pass from me; if it be your will, spare me this agony. In my darkest hour will you remember me? Remember me.” In the night in which my deepest doubts are known, you come to me and I am not alone. When I taste your blood and body given for me, when I hear your prayer in dark Gethsemane, then I know you will remember me, remember me. O Lord, remember me.”*

©1989 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

## **The Last Supper—Mark 14:22-25**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 52*

## **Meditation**

*Rev. Emma Nickel*

## **Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer**

Holy God, you bring us to this table and you promise to meet us here when we eat together.

This is a table of new expectations

This is a table where everyone can come to receive

This is a table for those who haven't met Jesus before

This is a table with the Lord of the harvest and catch

This is a table where the host is a servant

This is a table where we are reconciled

This is a table where there is safety and acceptance

This is a table which welcomes, invites, provides, unites

This is a table where uncomfortable things happen

This is a table that was the natural place to be

This is a table that was the place to meet people

This is a table where strength is restored

This is a table, this is our community.

So Lord, feed us here. Meet us here. Nurture us here.

This we pray, saying the words of Jesus:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

## **Communion of the People**

*Everyone is invited to participate in communion. While we sing the hymn, you are invited to come forward by the center aisle to the servers at the front to receive the bread and cup. We will be partaking by intinction. Tear a piece of bread from the loaf, gently dip the bread into the cup, then eat all of it. Please take care to keep fingers out of the juice in the cup. A gluten free station is available in front of the lectern, which will be using individual cups, instead of the common cup. If you prefer to be served in the pew, please remain seated and a server will come to you.*

## **Communion Hymn #275**

**“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”**

Text: Fred Pratt Green ©1974 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: English melody, harm. John Weaver ©1990 Hope Publishing Co.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Jesus Foretells Denial in the Garden—Mark 14:26-31**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 52*

**Prayer in the Garden—Mark 14:32-42**

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 53*

## Hymn #276

“Christ, Let Us Come with You”

Text: Shirley Edna Murray  
Music: Colin Gibson; both ©1992 Hope Publishing Co.

## Jesus' Arrest—Mark 14:43-50

*Pew Bible, NT pg. 53*

## Closing Poem

“Maundy Thursday”

*by Malcom Guite<sup>2</sup>*

Here is the source of every sacrament,  
The all-transforming presence of the Lord,  
Replenishing our every element,  
Remaking us in his creative Word.  
For here the earth herself gives bread and wine,  
The air delights to bear his Spirit's speech,  
The fire dances where the candles shine,  
The waters cleanse us with his gentle touch.  
And here he shows the full extent of love  
To us whose love is always incomplete,  
In vain we search the heavens high above,  
The God of love is kneeling at our feet.  
Though we betray him, though it is the night,  
He meets us here and loves us into light.

## Stripping of the Sanctuary in Silence

*The choir will remove the liturgical items from the sanctuary. The bare look of the chancel reminds us of Jesus' death on Good Friday. And it readies the sanctuary for Easter, when all things are made new.*

## Departing in Silence

## **READERS**

Marilyn Sutton

Ginny O'Brien

Jenn Muse

Melissa Ross

Norm Dell

Gary Moultrup

## **FPCRO STAFF**

*Pastor:* Rev. Emma Nickel

*Dir. of Christian Education:* Joelle Jarrait

*Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist:* Joseph Jackson

*Chancel Choir Dir.:* Kent Wattleworth

*Sunburst Singers Dir.:* Audrey Frieberg

*Church Admin.:* Kari Peruski

*Facility Manager:* Alan Glasel

*Admin. Assistant:* Sally Gilreath

*Sunday/Evening Reception:* Todd Crawford

*S.T.A.G.E. Youth Ministry Director:* Jessica Gibbs

*Nursery Care Worker:* Julia Carroll

## **SOLOISTS**

Bryan Clinthome, *baritone*

Brady DeVecchio, *tenor*

Olivia Donnel, *soprano*

Audrey Frieberg, *soprano*

Bulletin Cover Art: Hochhalter, Cara B., Communion/Eucharist, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59272>. Original source: Cara B. Hochhalter.

1 Service format adapted from one at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody, Georgia.

2 Malcom Guite, "Maundy Thursday," *Sounding the Seasons* (Canterbury Press, 2012), 36.

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*Worship services in FPCRO's sanctuary are now broadcast live and are recorded and posted on our website and social media platforms.*

*When you enter the sanctuary for a service, you consent to the recording and broadcast of your voice and likeness for such purposes without compensation.*

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## Holy Week and Easter Worship Services

Easter takes on the most meaning when we also enter the story of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion. Join us for worship throughout Holy Week and on Easter Sunday!

- **Good Friday**, March 29: Worship at 7pm with choir, scripture, reflections, and sermon. We'll explore *the things Jesus carried* as he went to the cross, including the crown of thorns, the sin of the world, and the amazing love of God.
  - **Easter Sunday**, March 31: Worship Services at **9am & 11am** in the sanctuary, with brass accompaniment, as we sing "Alleluia" and proclaim that Christ is risen, indeed!
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*Our church is a Stephen Ministry church. Stephen Ministers are lay caregivers who are trained to provide high-quality confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Contact the pastor if you are in need.*