

UNIONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MAUNDY THURSDAY

By This Everyone Will Know

DEPTHS OF LOVE WORSHIP SERIES

Unionville United Methodist Church

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Maundy Thursday

7:00 Worship

March 28, 2024

Today's Scriptures:

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Welcome

Prelude

"In the Garden"

Barb Mulik

* Call to Worship

Come, you with dirty feet, aching backs, and weary souls.

We come bearing a heavy load of worry, frustration, and isolation.

Come, you who are hungry, thirsty, longing to meet the one who will feed you, body and soul.

We come with emptiness in our stomachs and our hearts, desperate to be filled.

Come to meet Jesus who kneels to wash our dirt and grime, who feeds us with bread and with love that never ends.

We come to receive the balm for our anxiety, the provision for our hunger, the antidote for our loneliness.

Come to receive a new commandment: love one another as Christ has loved you.

We come to embrace this new commandment so that everyone will know we are disciples of Jesus Christ, God Incarnate who came to live and love among us. Amen.

* Hymn of Praise

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

#629

* Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, We confess that we have failed to love as you teach us to love. We ignore the needs of our neighbors. We shy away from those who are hurting. We meet the suffering of others with trite answers to distance ourselves from their pain. We neglect creation, taking advantage of the earth's resources without caring for it in return. 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 joyfully follow you into a life of love and service, building a world in which all creation can flourish.

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Bible Reading

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Hymn of Preparation

"Life-giving Bread"

#2261

Reflection

"By This Everyone Will Know"

Rev. Alan J. Morrison

Communion Hymn

"Let Us Be Bread"

#2260

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Communion

Hymn of Reflection

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

#290

Stripping of the Church

Tonight, we take part in the ancient practice of stripping the Lord's table and sanctuary in silence. Take this time to remember and reflect upon the suffering and death of Christ for us as the signs and symbols of faith in Christ are removed.

The Christ Candle remains lit as the reminder that as all is stripped from around Jesus, he stands before the powers and principalities alone.

As the stripping of the church unfolds we sit in silence. You are welcome to stay in prayer as long as you like and then depart in silence.

Maundy Thursday is not the end, it is the beginning! The story of the Passion of Christ continues at 7:00 PM on Friday, March 29th.

**Please stand as you are able*