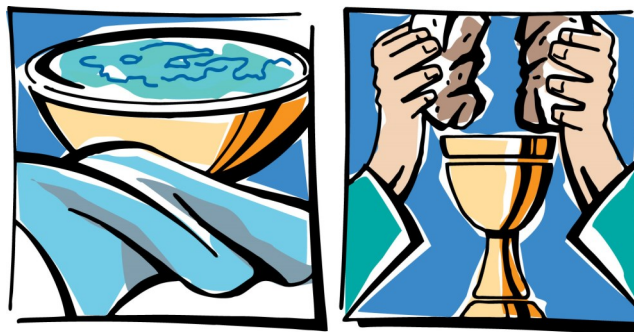


### **The Meaning of Maundy Thursday**

The Thursday before Easter Sunday, also called Holy Thursday, is a service to commemorate Jesus' Last Supper with the Apostles and the beginning of our sacrament, the Lord's Supper. The word Maundy comes from the Latin *mandatum*, which means "commandment."

At the Last Supper, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). Prior to breaking bread with the disciples, Jesus washed their feet. Maundy Thursday worship services include Holy Communion and sometimes foot washing as well.

Four events are commemorated on Maundy Thursday: the washing of the Disciples' feet by Jesus Christ, the institution of the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist (Holy Communion) at the Last Supper, the agony of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal of Christ by Judas Iscariot. After the Supper, Jesus went outside the Old City of Jerusalem and came to the Garden of Gethsemane. Because Jesus knew what would befall him, he prayed and wept, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." (Luke 22:42 – NRSV)



# MAUNDY *Thursday*

United Methodist Church  
Minden, Nebraska  
Pastor Peter Choi  
Maundy Thursday Service  
April 6, 2023

**Prelude “What Wonderous Love is This” UMH#292**

**Word of Welcome**

**Call to worship!**

L: We gather with the dirt of the day on our hands, our feet, and our hearts.

**P: We come in need of a Savior.**

L: We gather with the disciples, preparing to come to the table, yet surprised once again by Jesus.

**P: We come with our expectations only to be astonished by love.**

L: We gather at the basin to be washed and at the table to be fed, in body and in spirit.

**P: We come to receive a new commandment.**

L: We gather in awe of the grace demonstrated in Jesus kneeling to serve.

**P: We come seeking the grace to love one another as Christ loves us. Amen.**

**Opening Prayer**

Loving and merciful God, We gather in your presence on this sacred Maundy Thursday to reflect on the profound significance of this day. As we remember the Last Supper and the washing of feet, We are reminded of your selfless love and humility so sweet.

Lord, as we partake in this service of remembrance, May our hearts be opened to your grace and forgiveness, And may we be inspired by the example you set, To serve one another with love, compassion, and respect. Bless this time of worship and reflection, O Lord, As we come together to honor your sacrifice and word, May your presence be felt in every word spoken and song sung, As we seek to draw closer to you, the Holy One. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

**Opening Hymn**

**UMH 297**

**“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

**Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet**

(John 13:1-17, 34-35 (NIV))

“The Servant Song” FWS#2222 vs.1-3

**WASHING EACH OTHER'S HANDS**

As a sign of Christ's love at work in us, we serve one another and are vulnerable to one another.

**Hymn**

**UMH#298**

**“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

**THE LAST SUPPER—Holy Communion**

**Prayer after Communion**

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood. May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Stripping the Altar**

**Closing Hymn**

**UMH #301**

**“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”**

**Benediction**

May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever. Amen.

**All depart in Silence**