

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GREENLAWN

Order of Worship for Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

“Maundy” is the English form of the Latin word meaning “commandment.” Jesus’ new commandment, to “love one another even as I have loved you,” is the focus of Maundy Thursday.

ORDER FOR THE TABLE FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

GREETING

Come to the Upper Room,

Where Jesus shared his body and his blood.

Come to Gethsemane,

Where he prayed and was betrayed.

Come to the courts of justice,

Where the Righteous One was found guilty.

Come to the hill outside Jerusalem,

Where the Innocent suffered and died.

Come, let us bow down in awe,

For what happened there was done for us.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Dr. Van Cleaf

“Remember Me”

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

Forgive us, Lord, for forgetting Your sacrifice and for thinking that Your grace is cheap. Forgive us for using the Cross as a trinket, forgetting the agony it represents. Forgive us for taking our worship for granted, forgetting the struggle that has assured its freedom. Forgive us for being calloused to human cruelty, forgetting that every victim is a creature of God. Forgive us for being nonchalant about injustice, forgetting that it still nails innocence to the cross. Forgive us for thinking that sacrifice is obsolete, forgetting that we still contend against the powers of darkness. Receive our prayers offered in all humility, as we remember and honor Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray by saying, “Our Father ...”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O God, we thank You that in this Sacrament, we have been given the memorial of Jesus’ passion. Grant that we may know and show in our lives the fruit of his redemption, for Jesus is alive and reigns now and forever. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE TENEBRAE

PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of Judgment and Mercy, whose ways are not our ways, we seek Your protection and ask for courage, that we may dare to stand against principalities and powers that deny the humanity of our sisters and brothers, to the end that all people may live in a loving environment in which needs are met and all of us reach out in caring ways to one another. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

READING AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS

The Shadow of Betrayal: Matthew 26:20-24

The Shadow of Inner Agony: Luke 22:39-44

The Shadow of Loneliness: Matthew 26:40-45

The Shadow of Desertion: Matthew 26:47-50, 55-56

The Shadow of Accusation: Matthew 26:59-67

The Shadow of Mockery: Mark 15:12-20

The Shadow of Death: Luke 23:33-44

A Final Reading: John 1:1-4

SILENT MEDITATION

DEPARTURE