

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
April 14, 2022 – Maundy Thursday

Prelude

Welcome

Nurturing Safe Space

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Hymn: VU 133 Go to Dark Gethsemane, vv. 1, 3

1. Go to dark Gethsemane,
you that feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see;
watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his grief away:
Learn from him to watch and pray.

3. Calvary's mournful mountain view;
there the Lord of glory see,
made a sacrifice for you,
dying on the accursed tree.
"It is finished," hear his cry:
trust in Christ and learn to die.

Opening Prayer – Adapted from Psalm 116

Incline your ear, O God, as we call upon you this night, even
as we call upon you all our days.

**What can we give to God for all of the abundance of gifts
we receive?**

We lift up high the cup of salvation and call upon our Holy
One.

**We speak our commitments to love one another and let
those commitments lodge deep within our community.**

You untie us from that which binds us, God of Exodus, so that
we are free to be your servant people.

We make our offerings of mercy and justice in your name.

We Confess, Praying for Grace

Hear the opening words of the gospel of John's 13th chapter:
"Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his
hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Creator.
Having loved his own who were in the world, Jesus loved them
to the end."

**In kindling these lights, we remember the journey of
people of faith down through the ages who have brought
to us the stories of sacred freedom and commandment,
making holy our lives and calling from us purpose in love
and mercy.**

Anthem: VU 121 Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery, vv. 1, 4, 5

1. Tree of Life and awesome mystery,
in your death we are reborn,
though you die in all of history,
still you rise with every morn, still you rise with every morn.

4. Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,
come inflame our hearts anew,
we may all your joy inherit
if we bear the cross with you, if we bear the cross with you.

5. Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be,
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

Healing Prayer

We Share in Agape

Come home to God's d and pour the cup, an Agape meal
remembering that Last Passover meal that Jesus shared with
friends. Come imagining global sisters and brothers enjoying
with us this meal of memory so that we, together, remember
Christ sharing sacred cup and bread, that covenant.

**We give thanks for the sacrifice of grain and fruit and of
those who sow and cultivate, reap and mill. We eat and
drink to celebrate our connections to creation and to those
whose hands and hips rocked into the dough of this bread
and to remember the hungry Jesus who joins all who are
hungry.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Thank you, God, for showing us your love renewed in our
touching and tasting at your table.

**We gather around your table, smiling and Aching Host,
carrying the memories of delight and trauma in our bodies.**

Open this bread in our lives of service, O God. Pour this cup through our witness so that mercy and justice may respond to all the suffering of the world.

Come, Christ Jesus!

Bless this bread and cup, O Spirit, so that we may know how to serve one another.

Come, Spirit!

Prayer of Thanks *(together)*

God, you are making us into one Body of Christ, nourished at your table with this bread and cup. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. We turn from this table to be part of your healing presence. Amen.

Reading: John 13:1-7 (Contemporary English Version)

Ritual of Washing

Dedication Prayer

People of Christ, will you commit anew to ministries of prayer and worship, spiritual nurture and teaching?

We will, with the help of God.

People of Christ, will you commit anew to ministries of mercy and invitation?

We will, with the help of God.

People of Christ, will you commit anew to the ministries of justice and peace?

We will, with the help of God.

Closing Hymn: VU 436 Abide With Me, vv. 1, 3, 5

1. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

3. I need your presence every passing hour;
what but your grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like yourself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

5. Hold now your cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Blessing

Whatever the next hours hold, remember that you are blessed by God, supported by God, and strengthened by God.

When the wilderness looms, we take comfort in God's love, that our lives may affirm the good news of God brought to us in Jesus.

(looking to one another)

We are beloved.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit dwell among us as we journey through passion to resurrection.

All prayers except for Blessing from *Seasons of the Spirit, Fusion*.
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Thank you to Graham and Debby Laporte for their musical leadership, as well as to Suzanne Nykilchyk and Jennifer Bruneau for leading.
