

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (silent congregational preparation for worship)

CALL TO WORSHIP

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!" Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you. For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I walk before the Lord in the land of the living. I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar." What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord, I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

INVOCATION:

Holy God, we need your help to face the challenges of this night. Our intentions are good. We want to share in the heritage of our faith, to remember the saving drama of Passover and to celebrate Jesus' last meal with close friends. We want to be disciples, but we also count the cost, and tremble. Incline your ear to us and hear our supplications. We gather as your servant people, knowing we are precious in your sight, yet afraid to take the risk of trusting you completely. Lead us this night into deeper commitment. Amen.

Hymn What Wondrous Love is This

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John 13:1-17, 31b-35:

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4 got up from the table,^[a] took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." 9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10 Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,^[b] but is entirely clean. And you^[c] are clean, though not all of you." 11 For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have

washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants^[d] are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

31B-35:

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him,^[a] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

SPECIAL MUSIC

Becky Deters

MESSAGE

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

COMMISSION & BLESSING:

Fed at Christ's table, we have been strengthened.

We go with Christ to face life's tough realities.

The broken bread has refreshed us.

The cup of blessing has filled us with God's peace.

As disciples, much will be expected of us.

We cannot avoid the challenge of the cross.

Jesus is the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

He saw God's glory beyond the cross.

Rejoice and be glad; death does not have the last word.

What is good and right and true prevails.

God's glory will be seen in the risen Christ.

We go out in confidence, upheld by God's love.

Amen.