

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Hours: Mon, Tues and Thurs. 9:30-1:30

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



April 1, 2021
Maundy Thursday

“Moving Forward United in Faith”

“Committed to Christ, United by Love. We are about God, Christ, the Word, and the Future. No matter who you are or where you are on Life’s journey, you are welcome here. We are Bethany United Church of Christ.”

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021

7 PM

We welcome our friends and visitors to this Service of Worship. May this be a time of blessing for you. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to become part of the community of faith and mission here at Bethany.

**(*) PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE
(Bold Text is said or sung by everyone)**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Go to Dark Gethsemane" ... R. Redhead
Piano – Rebecca Kesselring Organ – Susan Wright

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is Maundy Thursday, a night to remember.

**All: We remember the Passover that Jesus shared with
His disciples,**

Pastor: We remember Christ's new covenant of broken bread and poured cup.

**All: Tonight, we remember and we thank God for the
presence of Jesus with us then and with us now.**

HYMN #272 "Go to Dark Gethsemane" (back cover)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Merciful God, we gather this evening hour as friends gathered with Your Son in Jerusalem long ago. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us of our need and of Your sufficiency in the breaking of the bread. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Hear now, our silent confessions...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: In the cross before us, we see God's amazing love for all people.

All: In the spirit of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin anew. Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL RESONSE: #484 O Lord Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, Come and listen to me.

READING OF SCRIPTURE:

Exodus 12: 1-14

John: 13: 1-20

Pastor: This is the Good News

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION "The Dripping of Water"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "In Remembrance" ... Red, arr. Douglas Handbell Choir acc by Meghann Wright on Flute

In remembrance of Me, eat this bread. In remembrance of Me, drink this wine. In remembrance of Me, pray for the time God's own will is done. In remembrance of Me, heal the sick. In remembrance of Me, feed the poor. In remembrance of Me, open the door and let your brother in, Let him in. Take, eat, and be comforted; drink and remember too, That this is My body and precious blood shed for you, shed for you. In remembrance of Me search for truth. In remembrance of Me always love. In remembrance of Me, don't look above, but in your heart look for God. Do this in remembrance of Me.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Savior Thy Dying Love
Savior, Thy dying love Thou gavest me, Nor should I aught
withhold, Dear Lord, from Thee; In love my soul would bow,
My heart fulfil its vow, Some offering bring Thee now,
Something for Thee.

PRAYER OF RESPONSE:

**Generous God whose love knows no boundaries, bless
this offering, we ask. We dedicate all that we give, to
your loving purpose; bringing in those who have been
cast out; standing strong on behalf of those who are
weak; speaking out Your Word of joy and justice for all
people. May Your loving realm increase! In Jesus name.
Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Each has received a cup with wafer and juice)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

**We give thanks, O God, for Your free gift of love offered
this night. You have refreshed us at the table of mercy,
touched our deepest needs, and called us to a life
shared in memory and hope. Now send us forth in the
spirit of Christ, that we, too, may become servants to
one another and the world around us. In Jesus name.
Amen.**

HYMN: #262, "Ah Holy Jesus"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



SCRIPTURE

Exodus 12: 1-14 NRSV

The First Passover Instituted

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

John 13: 1-20 NRSV

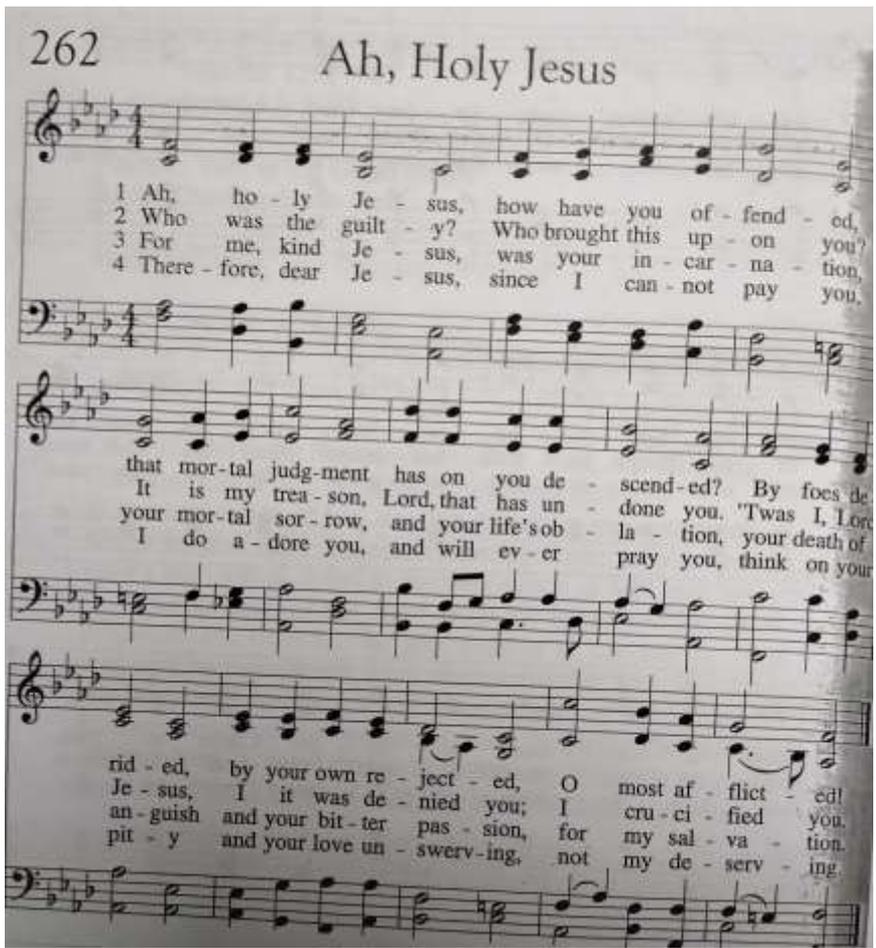
Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

13 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, 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, but is entirely clean. And you 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. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' ¹⁹I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he. ²⁰Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

262 Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how have you of - fend - ed,
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on you?
 3 For me, kind Je - sus, was your in - car - na - tion,
 4 There - fore, dear Je - sus, since I can - not pay you,

that mor - tal judg - ment has on you de - scend - ed? By foes de - done you. 'Twas I, Lord
 your mor - tal sor - row, and your life's ob - la - tion, your death of
 I do a - dore you, and will ev - er pray you, think on your

rid - ed, by your own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed!
 Je - sus, I it was de - nied you; I cru - ci - fied you.
 an - guish and your bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 pit - y and your love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Go to Dark Gethsemane

272

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, you that feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - der - ing

tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see;
 life ar - raigned. O the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,

watch with him one bit - ter hour; turn not from his
 O the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - fering.
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete: "It is fin - ished!"

griefs a - way; learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn of Je - sus Christ to die.