



*Centenary United Methodist Church  
2300 W. Friendly Ave.  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
March 28, 2024  
Maundy Thursday*

**Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor**

**Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director**

*Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the  
Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.  
Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world.  
Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.*

Gathering Music    Amazing Grace                      Newton, arr. M. Rose            Melody Rose, Flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

**People: whose mercy endures forever**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Welcome and Introduction

†Hymn                      What Wondrous Love is This                      UMH 292

Confession and Pardon

Minister: God shows great love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.  
Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,  
Our maker and our judge,  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
And in what we have failed to do:  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves'  
We repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*(Pray in Silent Confession)*

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: Loving God, your Son Jesus Christ has left us this meal of bread and wine in which he shared his body and blood. May we who celebrate this sign of 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.

Scripture                      John 13: 1-17, 31-35

Sermon                      The Best Object Lesson Ever!                      Rev. Kelley Groce

The Prayers of the People

The Washing of Hands

Special Music

Concerto, Movement 2 Antonio Vivaldi

Melody Rose, Flute

The Great Thanksgiving for Holy Thursday Evening

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. From the earth you bring forth bread and create the fruit of the vine. You formed us in your image, delivered us from captivity, and made covenant to be our sovereign God. You fed us manna in the wilderness and gave us grapes as evidence of the promised land.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When we turned aside from your way and abused your gifts, you gave us in him your crowning gift. Emptying himself that our joy might be full, he fed the hungry, healed the sick, ate with scorned and forgotten, washed his disciples' feet, and gave a holy meal as a pledge of his abiding presence. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and

thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now with the confidence of the Children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer following Communion:

**Holy God, source of all love, On the night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples To love one another as he loved them. We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others As he was servant of all. Amen**

†Hymn

Were You There?

UMH 288

†Dismissal with Blessing

†Postlude

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Arr. Roger Wilson

†Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able and please silence your cell phones†

We thank Melody Rose for her lovely flute music in this evening's worship service!