



SHED FOR YOU AND
FOR ALL PEOPLE FOR THE
FORGIVENESS OF SIN

**Centenary United
Methodist Church**

**2300 W. Friendly Ave.,
Greensboro, NC 27403**

**Maundy Thursday
Service**

April 1, 2021

**Rev. Kelley Groce, Pastor
Anita Trumpler-Rich
Music Director**

Prelude Sonate de concert, Op. 47...III. Adagio...Charles-Valentin Alkan
Thomas Graham, Cello and James Esterline, Piano

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Call to Worship "Lamb of God" 2113, v.1

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have
sent him from your side, to walk upon this guilty
sod, and to become the Lamb of God.

(Refrain)

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Call to Worship

(inspired by John 13, 1 Corinthians 11, Exodus 12)

Leader: A table is set before us. A feast is prepared for us.

People: A meal of bread and wine, of meat and bitter herbs.

Leader: The Lord calls us to this supper of remembrance.

People: The Lord calls us to serve and to be served.

Leader: As we break the bread and share the cup,

People: our understanding may fail us.

Leader: But we will never forget Christ's example.

People: We will never forget the full extent of his love.

Posted on the Worship Elements page of the Ministry Matters

website, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2478/worship-elements-holy-thursday-2015>

Opening Prayer

Blessed Father, gracious Son, and Holy Spirit, eternal Trinity, eternal light, we pray you would grace us with your presence during this hour. We pray that during our worship, your light would further penetrate our darkness, into spaces and thoughts that have heretofore remained shrouded. We pray for this for the sake of your kingdom, your glory, and our salvation. Amen

Hymn

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

2112, v. 1&2

Jesus walked this lonesome valley;
he had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;
he had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley;
we have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;
we have walk it by ourselves.

Confession and Pardon

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ.

You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways, by forgetting your love. Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father, and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior, Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: To all who confess themselves to be sinners, humbling themselves before God and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, I declare this sure promise: "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Scripture 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

Sermon Lessons of Life from the Gospel Feast Rev. Kelley Groce

Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle's Creed UMH 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

We worship with God's Offerings and our Tithes

Offertory Go to Dark Gethsemane...Montgomery/Redhead

James Esterline, Bass with Thomas Graham, Cello

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God, holy and mighty,
it is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
and to worship you in every place where your glory abides.

You laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

They shall perish, but you shall endure.

You are always the same
and your years will never end.

You made us in your image
and called us to be your people,
but we turned from you,
leaving sin and death to reign.

Still you loved us and sought us.

In Christ your grace defeated death
and opened the way to eternal life.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the heavenly choirs
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

You sent your only-begotten,
in whom your fullness dwells,
to be for us the way, the truth, and the life.

Revealing your love,
Jesus taught those who would hear him,
healed those who believed in him,

received all who sought him
and lifted the burden of their sin.

We glorify you for your great power and love at work in Christ.

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 us a new people by water and the Spirit.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,
on the night before he died,
took bread,
and after giving thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat.

This my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,
do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,
we take this bread and this wine
from the gifts you have given us,
and celebrate with joy
the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,
that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break

and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ
and with all who are baptized in his name,
that we may be one in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.
Help us, O God, to love as Christ loved.
Knowing our own weakness,
may we stand with all who stumble.
Sharing in his suffering,
may we remember all who suffer.
Held in his love,
may we embrace all whom the world denies.
Rejoicing in his forgiveness,
may we forgive all who sin against us.
Give us strength to serve you faithfully
until the promised day of resurrection,
when with the redeemed of all the ages
we will feast with you at your table in glory.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and for-
ever. **Amen.**

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

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,**

Forever and ever.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Song

“In Remembrance of Me”

2254, v. 1-3

In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine. In remembrance of me, pray for the time when 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 neighbors in, let them 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.

Dismissal with Blessing

This night is our calling to go into the world,

scattered to the ends of the earth

to love as Christ loved

and serve in the name of Christ.

It is our calling to remember,

even in our darkest hour,

who we are.

We remember that Christ is always with us.

And we remember that on this night,

we were taught how to love.

On this night, eternity begins

and the fullness of God’s Reign begins to spill into our lives.

So go into the world to give yourself for others,

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Go into the world and love

in the name of the One who loved you until the end.

It all begins and ends and begins again with Love.

That IS the story. Amen.

— written by Rev. Shelli Williams, in *Benediction*. Posted on the website of **St. Paul's United Methodist Church**, Houston, Texas. <http://www.stpaulshouston.org/>

Postlude

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Johann Cruger (Piano)

“We welcome cellist Thomas Graham and thank him and James Esterline for sharing their beautiful music with us.”

Upcoming events for Holy Week

- Easter Sunday Celebration, April 4th at 11:00am, - We will meet in person and require registration. **We are limited to 80 people. There will be a temperature check performed, use hand sanitizer, wear a mask, social distance.** You will be ushered to your seats. We will continue to record the service until the pandemic is over. Call Libby at the office 336-299-9643 or email Libby libby@centenaryumcgreensboro.org to make reservations to attend. Flower Cross-Bring your Flowers to decorate the Cross to adorn our Cross on the Front Lawn and Celebrate Easter.
- 🏳️ **Monday, April 5th and Tuesday, April 6th – The church office will be closed for the holiday.**
- 🏳️ **The church will have a recorded service on April 11th .**
- **Welcome Back! On Sunday, April 18th we will re-open for in person service at 11:00am.**