

Maundy Thursday

Virtual Communion

Do this in remembrance of me

April 9, 2020



Centenary United Methodist Church

Greensboro, North Carolina

Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Director of Music

*****Before you begin watching this Maundy Thursday Service, we ask that you go and get some sort of bread or cracker, and some juice. We have been granted permission to offer virtual communion, by the Bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference, Bishop Paul Leeland.***

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Call to Worship for Maundy Thursday

We are Jesus' disciples, following him even as he moves toward the cross.

Even as he wraps a towel around his waist.

Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.

We are Jesus' disciples, longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

Even as betrayers loom. Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ press in around us.

We are Jesus' disciples, struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us.

We are Jesus' disciples, gathered here to worship God:

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. Amen.

~ posted on Joanna Harader on her **Spacious Faith** blog. <http://spaciousfaith.com/>

Invocation

Song *Lamb of God*

Confession and Pardon

My sisters and brothers, Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant.

Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

Most merciful God, we your Church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him, forgive us, we pray; and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

Scripture 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Sermon “Gather Around the Table” 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 *I Love You, Lord*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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 God, 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

Song *In Remembrance of You*

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>