



SAINT LUKE'S  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# Wandering Heart

*"Streams of  
mercy"*

## Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024 6:00 pm



## In Preparation for Worship

With this service our Lenten observance comes to its culmination. We gather now with Christians around the world in celebrating The Three Days (known as the *Tridium*) of Jesus' death and resurrection.

On this first day, Maundy Thursday, we gather around the Lord's Table to remember the supper by which Jesus would express himself to the disciples and to the world. His love was revealed in the emptying of his life for us. Jesus invited all to share the holy meal and become what we eat and drink: the body of Christ offered in love for the life of the world.

During this worship service, we will immerse ourselves in the experience of the disciples at The Last Supper. While they were gathered for the Feast of Passover, Jesus transformed the sacred meal into something sacramental, bearing the grace of God for all who would receive it.

The service then follows the journey of Jesus and his disciples from the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knows the ultimate struggle to come. In the garden he begs his disciples to stay vigilant with him in prayer, as the shadows of the story approach. Our prayerful close and silent departure will help us stay connected with Jesus in this heightened moment of the holy week drama.

## Gathering in the Great Hall

### Welcome

### Chiming of the Hour

### Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord said to Moses in the land of Egypt

**People: over this meal, remember.**

Leader: Jesus said to his disciples in Jerusalem,

**People: over this meal, remember.**

Leader: This night, over this meal, we remember the Lord

**People: who never forsakes his people.**

Leader: This night, in the garden, we remember the Lord

**People: whose love knows no bounds.**

### Opening Hymn\* 510

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name *stanzas 1 & 2*

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LORD'S SUPPER

# 510 We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

## Come, Share the Lord

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em7)  
B<sup>b</sup> F Gm7

1 We gath - er here in Je - sus' name;  
2 He joins us here; he breaks the bread;  
3 We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;

(D) (Asus)  
F Csus

his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;  
the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;  
we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;

(A7) (D) (A) (D)  
C7 F C F

for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:  
the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:  
now we an - tic - i - pate the feast for which we wait:

(G) (D) (Em) (A) (D)  
B<sup>b</sup> F Gm C F *Fine*

come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

(A7) (D) (G) (A7) (D)  
C7 F B<sup>b</sup> C7 F

(1) No one is a strang - er here; ¶ ev - ery - one be - longs.  
(2) We are now a fam - i - ly, of which the Lord is head.

(G) (A7) (D) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
B<sup>b</sup> C7 F Dm Gm7 Csus C

Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.  
Though un - seen, he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

The center of this text recalls Christ's post-Resurrection meal at Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), a reminder that the Risen Christ is in our midst when two or three gather in his name (Matthew 18:20) and share a foretaste of the Heavenly Feast (Matthew 26:29/Luke 22:18/Mark 14:25).

## The Passover Feast

### Table Grace and Prayer for Illumination

#### The Passover Feast

Matthew 26:17-19

17 On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" 18 He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" 19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

#### Music 501

Feed Us, Lord

#### The Meal

*Tables will be invited one by one to bring their bowl from the table and be served soup.*

#### Music 507

Come to the Table of Grace

#### The Passover Observance

Exodus 12:24-27

24 You shall observe this Passover rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. 25 When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. 26 And when your children ask you, "What do you mean by this observance?" 27 you shall say, "It is the passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses." " And the people bowed down and worshiped.

#### The Passover Questions

*At the Passover meal, the children in the family traditionally ask the parents four questions about the significance of the Passover ritual. Tonight, children from our "family" will ask questions of their parents about the meaning of this evening.*

Child: Why is this night different from all other nights?

Parent: Because on this night we remember the Last Supper that Jesus had with his followers and we begin our three days of special prayer.

Child: What is the meaning of the bread and juice we will eat and drink?

Parent: Jesus promised that whenever we share in holy communion, he is present among us. When we eat the bread, we remember that Christ's body was broken out of love for us. When we drink the juice, we remember that Christ's blood was shed out of love for us.

Child: Why do we also celebrate foot washing tonight?

Parent: At the Last Supper Jesus washed the disciples' feet and then he told them that they should wash each other's feet. When we wash our neighbors' feet it reminds us that we are supposed to be to one another.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving for Deliverance

#### Music 202

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare stanza 2

## **At the Table, Betrayal Met With Grace**

### **Jesus Foretells Betrayal**

Matthew 26:20-25

20 When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; 21 and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” 22 And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” 23 He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 24 The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” 25 Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

### **Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet**

John 13:1-17

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. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants 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.

### **Music 202**

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare *stanza 3*

### **The Lord’s Supper**

Matthew 26:26-29

26 While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” 27 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

### **Communion Hymn 498**

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken *stanzas 2 & 3*

### **They Went to the Mount of Olives**

Matthew 26:30

30 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

*The congregation will stand and follow the character of Jesus to the courtyard for closing prayers.*

## Praying in the Garden as the Shadows Lengthen

### Jesus Foretells Denial

Matthew 26:31-35

31 Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

32 But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." 33 Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." 34 Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." 35 Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

### Praying in the Garden

Matthew 26:36-46

36 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37 He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. 38 Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." 39 And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." 40 Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? 41 Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;[e] the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." 42 Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." 43 Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. 44 So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

### Music 204

Stay Here

Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come.  
Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray.

### Depart in Silence

*When you leave this evening, please do so quietly.  
We now depart into a time of intense prayer as we make our journey  
from the table to the garden to the cross and, ultimately, to the empty grave.  
The Holy Week service continues tomorrow at 7pm.*

Thank you to Mary Guerrant, Sally Harvey, and Mark Rogers for sharing their music tonight.

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