



Maundy Thursday

April 13, 2006

St. James Presbyterian Church

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Service of Worship

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The Gathering

Prelude Gymnopedie I” Erik Satie

Call to Worship (from John 13:34)

Jesus said:

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Hymn #94

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare” *O Waly Waly*

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken: we confess that we have failed to fulfill your will for us. We betray our neighbors and desert our friends, and run in fear when we should be loyal. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. God, have mercy on us, weak and willful people. Lead us once again to your table, and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. To Christ be praise forever. Amen.

Kyrie

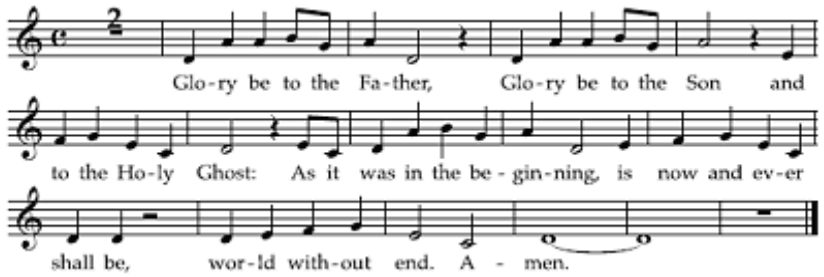


Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Friends, never forget the promise of the gospel.

Because of Jesus Christ, we are worthy to be called the daughters and sons of God.

Gloria



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, Glo-ry be to the Son and
to the Ho-ly Ghost: As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er
shall be, wor-ld with-out end. A - men.

The Liturgy of the Word

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

O God, tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do to be proper disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Gospel Reading John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The Meal

The Eucharist

The Thanksgiving

Friends: tonight we celebrate the feast of the people of God! We were delivered from death at the first Passover and again at the last supper which Jesus shared with his followers. Following ancient tradition, I greet you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

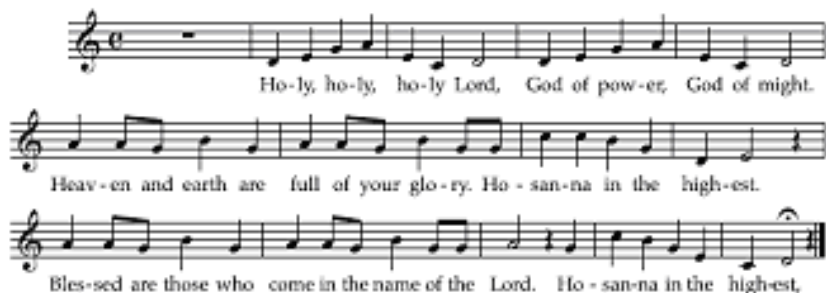


Cantor: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord. Cantor: Let us give
thanks for the Lord our God. People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

You bring forth bread from the earth, and create the fruit of the vine. You made us in your image, and freed us from the bonds of slavery. You claimed us as your people, and made covenant to be our God. You fed us with manna in the wilderness, and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey. When we forgot you, and our faith was weak, you spoke through prophets, calling us to turn again to your ways.

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



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might.
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bles-sed are those who come in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to deliver us from the bondage of death and slavery to sin. In humility he descends from your heights, to kneel in obedience to love's commands. He who is boundless takes on the bondage of our sin. He who is free takes our place in death's prison.

In the deserts of our wanderings, he sustains us, giving us his body as manna for our weariness, his blood as drink for our parched souls. In his death, he ransomed us from death's dominion; in his resurrection, he opened the way to eternal life.

In remembrance of your acts of grace in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Gracious God, pour out your 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 make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry through out the world. Then bring us at the last with the people of God of every nation and race, and from every time and place, to sit at table in that heavenly banquet where we will celebrate the victory of Christ.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is for you; do this, remembering me." Every time you eat this bread you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.

In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and said: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this, remembering me." Every time you drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.

The Communion

Prayer After Communion

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood. May we who have celebrated this sign of his 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.

Anthem “He Never Said a Mumbalin’ Word” Arr. Hopson

The Shadows

The Shadow of Betrayal Matthew 26:20-25

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, ‘Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.’ And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, ‘Surely not I, Lord?’ He answered, ‘The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 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.’ Judas, who betrayed him, said, ‘Surely not I, Rabbi?’ He replied, ‘You have said so.’

The Shadow of Inner Agony Luke 22:40-44

When he reached the place, he said to them, ‘Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.’ Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.’ Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

The Shadow of Loneliness Matthew 26:40-45

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? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ Again he went away for the second time and prayed, ‘My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.’ Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. 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.

The Shadow of Desertion Matthew 26:47-50,55,56

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, ‘The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.’ At once he came up to Jesus and said, ‘Greetings, Rabbi!’ and kissed him. Jesus said to him, ‘Friend, do what you are here to do.’ Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.’ Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The Shadow of Accusation Matthew 26:59-67

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, ‘This fellow said, “I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.”’ The high priest stood up and said, ‘Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?’ But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, ‘I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.’ Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.’ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?’ They answered, ‘He deserves death.’ Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him,

The Shadow of Mockery Mark 15:12-20

Pilate spoke to them again, ‘Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?’ They shouted back, ‘Crucify him!’ Pilate asked them, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Crucify him!’ So Pilate,

wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

The Shadow of Death Luke 23:33-46

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

The service is concluded. There is no benediction.