

Central United Methodist Church



Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Our Vision:

***Making Christ known by extending hospitality,
serving the community, pursuing justice and embracing all.***

201 - 3rd Avenue Knoxville TN 37917

www.knoxcentralumc.org

Gathering of the Faithful

Prelude "I Will Arise and Go To Jesus" arr. Mark Hayes

Choir Introit "With Those Hands" Words & Music by Ruth Elaine Schram

Welcome and Invitation

†Call to Worship

We are gathered to recall the night when Jesus was betrayed.
Are you ready to come to the feet of Christ, whose life was poured out for you?

By the grace of God, we are.

Can you watch while Jesus prays in the garden?

By the grace of God, we can.

Will you follow Jesus, even into the night of betrayal?

By the grace of God, we will.

Then let us praise God, even in the hours of darkness.

God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is your name to be praised in all the earth! Amen.

Hymn *What Wondrous Love is This* UMH 292

Listening for God's Voice

Holy Scripture John 13:1-17

Anthem "Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed" arr. Mary McDonald

Holy Scripture John 13:31-35
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Homily Remember the Love! Rev. Diana Brown Taylor

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

Tonight we gather in the quiet shadow of the cross,
on the night Jesus shared a meal with his friends,
washed their feet, and gave them a new command:
"Love one another as I have loved you."

All who seek to walk in the way of Christ are welcome at this table—
a table of grace, a table of mercy, a table of love.
So come, not because you must, but because you are invited.

Confession and Assurance

Let us take a moment to lay down the burdens we carry—
the pride, the fear, the regrets we have tried to outrun.
Let us offer our hearts to God in confession.

Merciful God,
on this holy night, we remember how quickly we turn away—
how easily we let pride or fear keep us from loving like Jesus.
We have denied, ignored, and forgotten your command to serve.
We have failed to love our neighbors and one another.
Forgive us. Cleanse our hearts.
Wash our feet again. Renew us in your love,
that we may follow Jesus, even to the cross. Amen.

Hear this good news:
Even on the night he was betrayed, Jesus knelt to serve and offered his love without limit.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

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 to give you thanks and praise, God of covenant and grace.
From the beginning, you have shaped a people for yourself,
led them through wilderness and exile, fed them with manna, and made a way where there was none.

And when we forgot your ways, you sent prophets to call us back,
and finally you came yourself, in Jesus Christ— full of grace and truth.

On this night, he took off his robe,
knelt to wash feet, and showed us that greatness is found in humility.

At the table, he broke bread and shared the cup—
not just with the faithful, but with the ones who would deny and desert him.

So with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join in 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. In him, you knelt to serve,
you broke bread with sinners, and you loved us to the end.

*On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread...
When the supper was over, he took the cup –*

And so, in remembrance of all you have done,
all you are doing, and all you promise to do,
we offer ourselves as a living gift,
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 cup.
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 love.

By your Spirit, make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in humble service to a world in need,
until Christ comes in final glory and we feast together 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.**

The Crucifixion of Jesus

The Shadow of Crucifixion and Humiliation

Matthew 27:31-43

The Shadow of Death

Matthew 27:45-54

The Shadow of Burial

Matthew 27:57-60

Song

Were You There

During the song, the altar and chancel area will be “stripped.” The Communion elements, paraments, candles and other items associated with worship are removed as a way of showing forth the desolation and abandonment of Jesus in the garden.

Dismissal

Once the last candle is extinguished and the cross is draped in black, you are dismissed.
You are welcome to stay in the sanctuary in silent reflection.

† Please stand in body or spirit

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