

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is derived from the French “mande,” or the Latin “mandatum,” and. At this service, we remember Christ’s commandment to “love one another as I have loved you,” given during the Last Supper with His disciples.

Symbolic Meaning of the Recession of the Gospel

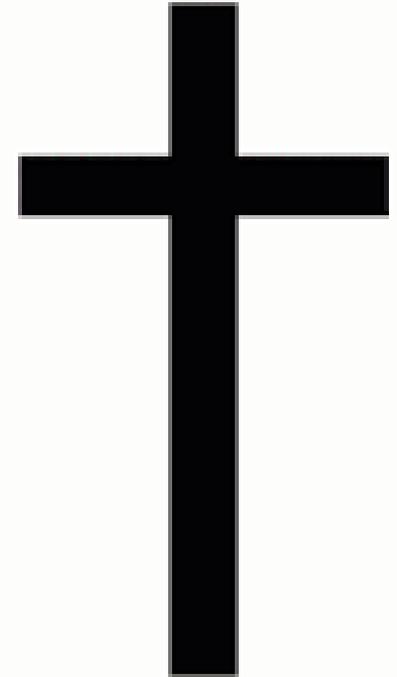
At the end of the service, the communion table will be cleared as the light is extinguished in the sanctuary. This symbolizes our loss of Jesus’ earthly presence. Only the cross will be left on the table, symbolizing grief and mourning.

The way we move as a community symbolizes our unity in Christ. The recession is not just a means to get out of the sanctuary; it has deep theological meaning, reminding us that we are a pilgrim people, journeying together in faith, and that the Holy Spirit is always with us.

The recessional. The cross comes first in the recessional reminding us of Christ at the head of the church. It also reminds us that Christ was born, was crucified, and rose from the dead to bring us salvation. The cross speaks of God’s sacrificial love for us.

The recessional. The Bible is sufficient to reveal to us the triune God in the world. Our faith is built upon the God revealed to us in Scripture. The Holy Spirit, God’s Word to and for us, guides our life of faith and service.

The candles remind us that the resurrection of Christ is always at the heart of our worship. The candle reminds us that Christ is the light of the world who goes before us. Tonight the candles are snuffed before they join the recessional, symbolizing Jesus’ absence from us between his death on the cross and his resurrection. Without Christ, we walk in darkness and silence.



Maundy Thursday ***April 9, 2020***

o: (Can be read responsively or sung)

let us worship and bow down.

Feel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

is our God,

He the people of his pasture,

the sheep of his hand,

the sheep of his hand.

ession

se humans could not free themselves from the power of sin,
earth in the form of Jesus, our Lord, as a sacrifice for sin and as
er than sin, so that its power could no longer reign over us.
ess our sin we show that it does not control us, and we receive
ness. Let us confess our sin first together and then silently.

**And merciful God, we are horrified when we realize how pow-
erful the sin that would separate us from you without
us and within us. We are humbled by the fact that our God
died on our behalf in order to free us from the power of sin.
For failing to appreciate every moment of our lives not only
cost you the price paid for our salvation but also the enumerable blessings
of your love and use of our salvation. Forgive us and help us to love you
more and to express that love more consistently. Amen.**

Pardon:

ure tells us that when we honestly confess our sin to God, God
is just to forgive us.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.”

ey the wondrous cross
e Prince of glory died
ain I count but loss
tempt on all my pride
d, that I should boast,

Save in the death of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood
See from his dead, his hands,
His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Where the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my fire, my all.

Read John 17, remembering that this is the final prayer Jesus spoke before
his crucifixion and that he prayed it for you as much as he prayed for
men and women who had walked with him while he was on this earth.

Pray the Lord's Prayer together.

**Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come, and 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**

Sing or Read “Were You There” and on the last verse extinguish
the candles and remove from the table along with the cross and the Bible.

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

4 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

Take a moment to reflect silently on the meaning of this service.