

First Presbyterian Church

Newton, KS

John 13:1-17 NIV

13 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2 The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray

Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

8 "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

10 Jesus answered, "Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." 11 For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

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First Presbyterian Church - Newton, KS
April 17, 2025 - Maundy Thursday - 6:30pm

Rev. Scott McGinnis, Pastor
Kelli Glann, Organist

PRELUDE *"The Old Rugged Cross"* arr. William Barnett

WELCOME

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Recite in unison)*

Psalm 116:12-13

Leader: What shall we offer for all God's goodness to us?

All: Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

✦ **HYMN** *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* PH #92

SCRIPTURE: John 13:1-17 NIV (See back of bulletin)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Loving, listening God, ever-attentive to the voices of those in need, we call on your name so that we might live. Now hear our prayer: For the church that bears Christ's name, that the world may know we are his disciples by the love that we have for one another. For leaders of nations and all persons in positions of authority, that their lives may be marked by Christ-like service and love. For all who are oppressed and living in captivity, that they may escape from evil and death to find the land of freedom you have promised. For those who are hungry and thirsty this day and for those who have too much, that we may learn to

share your generous gifts, O God. For those who are dealing with loss or facing death, that the presence of Christ may bless and keep them.

Silent Prayer

All: Answer us in the day of trouble, O God, so that we may lift up the cup of salvation in the presence of your people, giving thanks for all your goodness to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?

The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of humanity with God and with one another, in which we joyfully eat and drink together at the table of our Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinful humanity so that by participation in it we have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as we eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Christ's appointment, we receive from the risen and living Lord the benefits of his death and resurrection. We rejoice in the foretaste of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord's Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called us. (Confession of 1967, 9.52)

HYMN *"Let Us Break Bread"* PH #513

MAUNDY THURSDAY REFLECTION

We see God's love for the world most clearly in the sacrifice of Jesus who died for our sins, so our relationship with God and with each other can be restored. At the last meal with His disciples before His crucifixion He gave them a new commandment: **"...love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."** This is our task as His Church.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION BASED ON JOHN 13

Merciful God, we confess that so often our discipleship has been weak. When we have failed to serve as Jesus served; **forgive us**. When we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us; **forgive us**. When we have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus with our lips and then denied him by our actions; **forgive us**.

Merciful God, empower us by your Spirit to always be faithful in every time of testing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Jesus said: John 12:47, "I came not to judge the world, but to save the world" and John 13:1, "having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end." The good news, therefore, is this:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER BEFORE LORD'S SUPPER

Blessed are you, O God, for our beloved brother Jesus who came to show us the Way, the Truth, and the Life so that we might share in your blessing and live in your abundance forever and ever. When we were hungry, without food, he healed us. When ignorant, he taught us. When we were sick, he touched us with healing. When enslaved to demons, he freed us. He embodied your Sovereign rule all the way to certain death by Empire, yet he did not back down.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Send forth your Holy Spirit now, we pray, that, as we read the ancient story, we may hear you speak among all the screams and silences of the cross. Keep us all one, even as you prayed we would all be one, and fill us with the strength to abide with you and minister unto you even in the torturous chaos of a crucifying world. This we ask in Christ, through Christ, with Christ to whom be all honor and glory and dominion now and forevermore. Amen.

✦ **HYMN** "*Were You There*"

PH #102

CLOSING PRAYER

How beautiful, O Lord, are the feet that proclaim the gospel.
Make us ready to follow Christ:
in word and action,
in service and love,
so that all the world may know
the one we love and serve:
Jesus Christ the Lord.

BENEDICTION

May the blessing of the Son who kneels and washes our feet and the blessing of the Spirit who empowers us to love, call us out from our comfort and our safety to embrace and serve those we meet as we follow Jesus.