

A Service of Worship
April 6, 2023
Maunder Thursday

We Gather at God's Call

Jesus Gathers with His Disciples in the Upper Room

Prelude

*Invitation to the Table

Beloved people of God, do you hear the invitation of Jesus this night?

Jesus calls us so that he can wash our feet.

Beloved people of God, do you hear the invitation of Jesus this night?

Jesus calls us so that he can share a meal with us.

Beloved people of God, do you hear the invitation of Jesus this night?

**Jesus calls us so that he can share his love with us,
and so that we can share his love with others.**

Beloved people of God, let our worship this night and the lives we lead be our response to the invitation of Jesus. Let us worship God together.

*Hymn

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

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*An upper room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there
to celebrate their risen friend.*

*A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.*

*And after supper he washed their feet,
for service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:
sent out to serve, as he was sent.*

*No end there is! We depart in peace.
He loves beyond our uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.*

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*responsively*)

Humble Savior, your words were clear:

**“I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.”**

**You have loved us unfailingly, unceasingly,
and we have rejoiced in that love.**

**But we have not poured out on others
the love you have lavished on us.**

Forgive us.

**Cover us with your mercy,
and lead us once again in your ways. Amen.**

*Words of Forgiveness

Beloved of God, hear this good news:

even in our sin, Christ went to conquer death on our behalf and Christ redeems us still.

Even now we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Jesus Shows His Disciples How to Serve

Scripture Reading

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Meditation

*Hymn

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

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*Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
yours is the strength that sustains dedication;
ours, a commitment we know never ends.*

*Here, at your table, confirm our intention;
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
teach us to serve without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.*

*When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in learning
all that it means to accept you as Lord.*

Jesus Shares the Supper with His Disciples

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*responsively*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, God, ruler of the universe....

...Take and eat; this is my body which is for you.

**Blessed are you, O God,
for yours is the power, now and forever.**

We thank you for Jesus, who took the cup, saying,

This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you.

When you drink it, remember me.

**Blessed are you, O God,
for yours is the glory, now and forever.**

Send your Holy Spirit to bless these offerings
and renew us in Christ.

Perfect in us the love that casts out fear
and give all who share in this communion

the fullness of your Spirit
for the forgiveness of sin,
resurrection from the pit,
and new life in your realm, which has no end.

**Blessed are you, O God,
for yours is the kingdom, now and forever.**

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God!

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest!

Blessed are you, O God,
for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Pouring of the Cup

*Communion of the People

(Please move toward the center of the church, then move to the station serving your section. Servers will offer you a piece of bread—please cup your hands to receive it and move to the next server to take a cup from the tray. After you receive the elements, please return to your seat to eat the bread and drink the cup. You may leave your cups in the chair racks or dispose of them as you leave the sanctuary. For those who would be helped by a gluten free bread, please come to the center aisle and receive the element from the server in the middle.)

Prayer after Communion

God of grace, we give you thanks

for the feast of redemption we have shared

in the body and blood of our Savior.

As you have nourished us with love,

let our lives proclaim your great love for the world;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. Amen.

Jesus Prays in the Garden of Gethsemane

Scripture Reading

Luke 22:39-54a

Stripping of the Church

Psalm 22:1-25

The service ends in silence.