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## MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 pm

April 18, 2019

*In vain we search the heavens high above,  
the God of love is kneeling at our feet.  
Though we betray Him, though it is the night.  
He meets us here and loves us into light.*

*- Malcom Guite*

## **Our Mission Statement**

Called to love God and one another, First Presbyterian Church responds to God's grace by following Christ with ministries of hospitality, worship, faith development, service and generosity.



Use these moments prior to the Prelude to greet one another briefly. At the ringing of the chimes, please seek the presence of God in stillness and quiet. Please silence cell phones. The asterisk (\*) invites you to stand as you are able.

Chimes and Prelude

Adagio  
Tomaso Albinoni  
(1671 - 1751)

**\*Opening Words and Prayer**

**God of light and truth,  
grant us peace as we gather tonight.  
May we draw closer to you as we recall again  
the service and suffering of Christ,  
in whose name we meet and pray.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn #511**

Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven  
*Llanfair*

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, you call us to serve others as Christ served us.  
We confess that we do not follow Christ's example  
as fully or as often as we should.  
We turn away from people in need.  
True humility eludes us,  
and we hide our vulnerability before others.  
You command us to love one another as you love us,  
but we do not love generously.  
On this Holy Thursday,  
we confess that we are capable of denying and betraying  
you and one another,  
just as the first disciples did.  
Forgive us, merciful God, and cleanse us of our sin;  
Guide our feet to walk with you always.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response (Hymn #466)**

Come and Fill Our Hearts

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
Alleluia!**

## ***Action 1: Washing***

Scripture Reading

John 13:1-5 (New Testament, p. 107)

Prayer

Tonight, O God, we recall that your Son arose from the table  
to descend to the floor.

**We rejoice that in his humility he left the things of heaven  
for the dirt and dust of this world.**

Give us humility, we pray,  
that we might discover and follow Christ's way and not our own.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your truth.**

Response #205

**Ubi caritas et amor,  
ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

## ***Action 2: Cleansing***

Scripture Reading

John 13:6-11 (New Testament, p. 107)

Prayer

Lord God, help us to accept love when it is shown,  
and your love as it is shown through Christ.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your truth.**

Response #205

**Ubi caritas et amor,  
ubi caritas Deus ibi est.**

### Action 3: Serving

## Scripture Reading

John 13:12-17 (New Testament, p. 107)

## Prayer

Gracious God, teach us how to serve as we are served.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your humble love.**

Hymn #202

## An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

*O Waly Waly*

### Action 4: Betraying

## Scripture Reading

John 13:18-30 (New Testament, p. 108)

## Prayer

Loving God, we pray for those who are persecuted and betrayed.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your strength.**

Response #471

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.**

**When I call, answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.**

**Come and listen to me.**

### Action 5: Leaving

## Scripture Reading

John 13:31-33 (New Testament, p. 108)

## Prayer

Jesus told his disciples that he was going to prepare a place for them.  
In silence we remember those who have gone before us,  
who have brought the Gospel to us,  
who have served Christ amongst us,  
and who now are in that place prepared also for us ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your hope.**

## Response #204

**Stay with me; remain here with me;  
watch and pray.  
Watch and pray.**

## *Action 6: Loving*

### Scripture Reading

John 13:34-35 (New Testament, p. 108)

## Prayer

Jesus commanded his disciples to love,  
even as he knew that betrayal and denial were close at hand.  
We pray for those who are rejected and unloved...

**We pray for those who are betrayed by those whom they love.**

We pray for those who deny their faith through fear.

**We pray for those who this night, and every night, fear for their lives.**

We pray for those for whom this night will be their last.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your compassionate love.**

## Response #471

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.  
When I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.  
Come and listen to me.**

## Action 7: Denying

Scripture Reading      John 13:36-38 (New Testament, p. 108)

### Prayer

O God, you know that it is often easier and safer  
for us to remain silent when we might challenge.  
To speak with quiet voices when they need to be louder.  
Help us, we pray, re-call us to your service  
as Christ recalled your servant Peter by the lakeside,  
that we may be fed...and then feed others.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, fill us with your courage, your love and your humility.  
Help us in the night-time shadows of fear  
to know the continuing light of your presence,  
that we may be seen and heard as your people.  
Amen.**

### Anthem

In the Garden  
Carl J. Nygard, Jr.

### The Lord's Supper

May you know that the Lord is with you.  
**And also with you.**  
May you open your heart to God this night.  
**May you know his love within you.**  
Even in the foreboding presence of darkness  
**May the Lord's light shine forth.**

*The prayer continues...*

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*We will commune by the ancient practice of intinction, dipping the bread in the cup.  
The Communion bread is nut-free, gluten-free, wheat-free, dairy-free, and egg-free.*

Response #471

**O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.  
When I call, answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.  
Come and listen to me.**

Closing Words

Mark 14:32-34 (New Testament, p. 52)

Depart in Silence

*We depart quietly into the night. The candles remain lit as a sign of hope.*

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**Leading in Worship** tonight are Greg Stovell, Pastor; Steve Clark, Associate Pastor; Caroline Cupp, Associate Pastor; Sándor Kádár, Director of Music; Kira Boros, piano; Michael Zelno-Nash, piano; Lyndsay Varsaci, soprano; The Chancel Choir; Stuart Levy and Scott Pruden, Readers.

**Serving Communion** tonight are Lorrie Fabrizio and Judy Mackleer. Serving as ushers are Bill Benson and Dennis Westhafer.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**7:00 p.m. Service**

**EASTER WORSHIP**

**6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service**

The Barn at Spring Brook Farm  
(350 Locust Grove Rd, West Chester)

**9:00 & 10:42 a.m.**

Worship in the Sanctuary