

Welcome to Philadelphia UMC

April 6, 2023

Maundy Thursday

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome to you who call upon the name of Christ. We gather tonight to recall the story of the night Jesus was betrayed. Are you prepared to come to the feast of Jesus, the Christ, whose life was poured out for you?

P: By the grace of God, we are.

L: Are you able to watch with Jesus at prayer in the garden - indeed, to struggle yourselves to be in unity with God's will for you?

P: By the grace of God, we are.

L: Then let us praise God in this hour of remembrance!

All: God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is your name to be praised in all the earth. Bring us to this feast of remembrance with open hearts! Amen.

*SPECIAL MUSIC

"Were You There?"

UMH #288

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

MEDITATION

"On This Night"

Rev. Kathy Pryor

A SERVICE OF COMMUNION:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: As we prepare for this sacred act, let us remember who we are.

All: O Christ, in your presence we discover who we are. You wash the feet of others, and we learn how reluctant we are to serve one another and the world around us. We are so like your disciples, who looked to their own self-centered interests even as you prepared to give yourself for the sake of the whole world. Our love scarcely suffices for those closest to us, and yet you invite us to join all creation at your feast. Forgive us, and help us treasure your presence more deeply, that we may find this night a celebration of overflowing joy.

SILENT INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION ASSURANCE

L: God reaches out to heal, and to reveal again the love that will not let us go. Know that you are forgiven, to answer God's love with your praise, devotion, and service.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Almighty God, ruler of the universe, we thank you for your mighty acts of deliverance. You enable us to cross over from despair to hope, from brokenness to wholeness, from death to life. We thank you for the deep love of Jesus, which moved him to give himself for the redemption of all creation. We thank you for the grace we experience in receiving these elements of the life Christ gave for others, and for us. Amen.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

All: Creator God, we thank you for the nourishment you give us -- for bread, and fruit of the vine. God of freedom, we thank you that you do not leave us in bondage, but act in power to liberate us from all oppression. We thank you that Christ, acting in courage and faith, has won for us the victory over sin and death. May the bread and cup be signs of your renewed covenant with us, and may we be ever faithful, until the coming of your final Shalom. Amen.

SHARING OF THE FEAST OF CHRIST

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CHANCEL CHOIR

"'Tis Midnight"

STRIPPING OF ALTAR

(Congregation will process out in silence upon completion of altar stripping.)

Communion Attendant - Lynwood Littlejohn

Youth Attendants - Maddox Dover, Gerin Knight, Anna Kate Dover

Join us here at Philadelphia UMC this weekend, as the Easter celebrations continue.

Saturday, April 8th - 10:00am, Children's Easter Party
"Jesus, MY Shepherd" Crafts, Egg Hunt, and Lunch

Sunday, April 9th - 7:00am, Easter Sunrise Service
"A Shepherd Eats" Breakfast following service

9:30am, Easter Celebration
Worship Service
"Shepherd, King, GOAT"

