



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



MAUNDY THURSDAY

MARCH 29, 2018

Welcome

Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary

In the Gospel of John, on night before his crucifixion, Christ began Passover celebrations with the disciples by stooping to wash their feet, saying, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34).

In the early church, before the Reformation, before the Hebrew and Aramaic of Bible was translated into German and English, it was translated into Latin. The Latin translation of John 13:34: "*Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos.*"

Maundy Thursday is a day we mark the *mandatum novum*, the new commandment of love.

On Maundy Thursday we commemorate and rededicate ourselves to the *mandatum novum*.

Today
from the life
of the church

Traditionally this day is observed with foot washing. This year we will try mutual hand massage with lotion as part of the "sermon." Pastor Michael will provide guidance

Gathering of God's People

SILENT MEDITATION

*Our journey had advanced;
Our feet were almost come
To that odd fork in Being's road
Eternity by term.*

-Emily Dickinson

PRELUDE

GREETING AND WELCOME

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

A New Commandment I give you, that you love one another;

**Even as I have loved you, that you love one another. By this
everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love
for one another.**

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of love, we have come here to share in the supper
which your only Son left to the church on the night before he
died. Jesus commanded us to celebrate it so that we might make
his sacrifice our own, until we feast anew with him in your realm.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Savior. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

#282, *If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, **forgive us. Our will is bound to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We acted when we knew better. We were still when we knew we should have moved. For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

We are reconciled to God through Christ; for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us. Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God. Once lost, we now are found. God clothes you in the finest robe of all, the righteousness of Jesus Christ, forgiving you all your sins and making of you a new creation. Amen. **Amen.**

Proclaiming the Good News

READING

EXODUS 12: 1-4

A reading from Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM*Hope of the World* by Lloyd Larson***GOSPEL**

JOHN 13:1-17, 31B-35

A reading from John.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

SERMON

Rev. Michael Swartz
More Blessed to Give Than to Receive

885 United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the Form of a Doxology

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness
and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and
risen Savior,
you have come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to yourself

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,
tongues, and races.

You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray for the peace of the whole world, for the extension of God's reign and for the salvation of all peoples.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for the well-being of the churches of God and for the unity of them all, that they may fulfill their mission in the world.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for ministers of word and sacrament, for missionaries, for teachers, for bishops and all who bear office in the church, that they may be faithful to the work committed to them.

God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for all who profess the name of Christ, and for those who worship with us for the first time, that they may be guided and kept in the way of Christ.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for all entrusted with authority in nation and community that they may order all things with justice and mercy.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for the lonely and the troubled, for the sick and the sorrowful, and for those to whom death draws near, that they may be comforted.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Let us pray for any whom we wish to remember by name in our hearts.

(Silence) God, hear our prayer;

And in your love, answer.

Remembering what your love has accomplished in the past, and your faithfulness to those who have gone before us into your presence, we commend ourselves, our fellowship and all our life to Christ our Savior.

Help, save and strengthen us, O God, by your grace. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

***Grant us, Lord, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
That ourselves and all our living, We may offer unto thee.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Service of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO CHRIST'S TABLE

*COMMUNION HYMN

#340 *We Are People On A Journey*

Somos pueblo que camina (We Are People on a Journey)

"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century; alt.
English version, Carolyn Jennings, 1993

John 6:32-3

1 So-mos pue-blo que ca - mi - na por la sen - da del do - lor.
2 Los hu - mil-des y los po - bres in - vi - ta - dos son de Dios.
1 We are peo-ple on a jour - ney; pain is with us all the way.
2 God has sent the in - vi - ta - tion to the hum-ble and the poor.

Estribillo (Refrain)

A - cu - da-mos ju - bi - lo - sos a la san - ta co - mu-nión.
Joy-ful - ly we come to - geth - er at the ho - ly feast of God.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Es-te pan que Dios nos brin-da
a-li-men-ta nues-tra u-nión. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 3 This is bread that God pro-vides us,
nour-ish-ing our u-ni-ty. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 4 Cris-to a-quí se ha-ce pre-sen-te;
al reu-nir-nos es su a-mor. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 4 Christ is ev-er pres-ent with us
to u-nite us all in love. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 5 Los se-dien-tos de jus-ti-cia
bus-can su li-be-ra-ción. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 5 All who tru-ly thirst for jus-tice
seek their lib-er-a-tion here. (<i>Refrain</i>) |

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right that we should always and everywhere give thanks to you, Eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Savior; who for our sins was lifted up on the cross, that he might draw everyone to himself; who by his suffering and death became the way of eternal salvation for all who obey him. Therefore, we join with the entire company of heaven and all your people now on earth in worshipping and glorifying you saying;



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was given up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

PRAYER OF CONSERCRATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

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.**

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING THE WINE

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Please walk forward in a continuous line down the center aisle.

Receive first a morsel of bread. Step forward to a server with a cup; dip the bread into the cup and partake in communion. Move on and back to your seat by a side aisle.

***THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

You have given yourself to us, Holy Jesus.

Now we give ourselves for others.

Your love has made us a new people;

As a people of love we will serve you with joy.

Your glory has filled our hearts;

Help us to give glory to you in all things.

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#97, *Go to the Dark Gethsemane*

***CLOSING VOLUNTARY** *Please stand quietly and prayerfully as the altar is stripped.
We leave in silence.*

SERVING TODAY

Ushers

Bruce Wood

Lector

Katy Härle

Stripping the Altar

Tom Woodburn, Michael Dyer, Dieter Harle, Katy Harle, Nancy McConnell

Sound Tech

Jeff Newcomb

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Michael Swartz, *Associate Pastor*

Maureen Holmes, *Chancel Choir Director*

Mason Moss, *Interim Organist/Pianist*

Gail Glockhoff-Long, *Campanella Ringers Director*

Jennifer Dailing, *Office Assistant*

Amber Moore, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

Becca Peterson, *Director of Family Ministry*

Sara Otta, *Finance Manager*

Wes Llewellyn, *Fellowship Coordinator*

Harleigh Jones, *Nursery Coordinator*

Amanda Peterson, *Red Wagon Preschool Director*

Mike DeToye and Ron Mahar, *Custodians*



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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love