

SERVICE OF WASHING AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 29, 2018

MAUNDY THURSDAY

NO GREATER LOVE...



WELCOME AND INVITATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are Jesus' disciples,
following him even as he moves toward the cross,

***Even as he wraps a towel around his waist,
Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.***

We are Jesus' disciples,
longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark,

***Even as betrayers loom,
Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ
press in around us.***

We are Jesus' disciples,
struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us.

***We are Jesus' disciples, gathered here to worship God:
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. Amen.***

HYMN *An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare* See hymn sheet, verses 1 and 2

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR NEED OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE

O Christ, in your presence we discover who we are. You wash our feet, 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 is scarcely enough to offer to 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 in this night a celebration of overflowing joy. Amen.

God reaches out to heal, and to reveal again the love that will not let us go. Know that we are forgiven,

***And we will answer God's love with our praise, devotion and service.
Thanks be to God.***

THE SILENT SACRAMENT: A TIME OF WASHING

Preparation An Upper Room, verse 3

The Word John 13:1-9, 12-17, 33-35

The Way and The Washing

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 symbols of the life Christ gave for others, and for us. Amen.

REMEMBERING THE MEAL AND SHARING COMMUNION

PRAYER AND SECOND GOSPEL PASSAGE

Let us join Christ as he instructs his disciples as to what is next.

Let us join Christ in contemplation and grace.

THE WORD *John 15: 9-17*

REFLECTION

HYMN *An Upper Room, verse 4*

BENEDICTION

TONIGHT'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

*Rev. Michael D. Kirby
Rev. Jessica C. Gregory
Paul Vander Weele*

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Tonight's front cover art is "The Last Supper with the 12 Tribes" an imaginative reimagining of peoples of different races in the developing world replacing the disciples. It was painted by Wyatt Moore, artist and former Bible translator/linguist. The closing art piece, "Washing of the Feet" is by artist John August Swanson.

