



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022

Musical Call to Community

Within Our Darkest Night

Taize

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies.

Amen.

Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The congregation is invited to wash one another's hands with the words, "Let us love and serve one another as Christ has so loved us."

Musical Response

Ubi Caritas



U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
Live in cha - ri - ty and stead - fast love. Live in cha - ri - ty, God will dwe-ll with you.
Dond-de hay a - mor y ca - ri - dad, don-de hay a - mor Dios a - lli - es - ta.

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! You beyond the galaxies,

You under the oceans,

You inside the leaves,

You pouring down rain,

You opening the flowers,

You giving us your image,

You carrying us through the waters,

You holding us in the night,

Your smile on Sarah and Abraham,

Your hand with Moses and Miriam,

Your words through Deborah and Isaiah,

You lived as Jesus among us,

Healing, teaching, dying, rising,

Inviting us all to your feast.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take 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 for the remembrance of me.

Holy God, we remember your Son,

His life with the humble,

His death among the wretched,

His resurrection for us all:

And so we cry, Mercy:

Mercy!

And so we cry, Glory:

Glory!

And so we cry, Blessing:

Blessing!

Holy God, we beg for your Spirit. Enliven this bread,

Awaken this body,

Pour us out for each other.

Transfigure our minds,

Ignite your church,

Nourish the life of the earth.

Make us, while many, united,

Make us, though broken, whole,

Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we cry, Come, Holy Spirit:

Come, Holy Spirit!

And so the church shouts, Come, Holy Spirit:

Come, Holy Spirit!

And so the earth pleads, Come, Holy Spirit:

Come, Holy Spirit!

You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three, Our Life, our Mercy, our Might,

Our Table, our Food, our Server,

Our Rainbow, our Ark, our Dove,

Our Sovereign, our Water, our Wine,

Our Light, our Treasure, our Tree,
Our Way, our Truth, our Life.
You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!
Praise now, Praise tomorrow, Praise forever.
And so we cry, Amen:
Amen!

The Prayer of Jesus

*As we pray the Prayer of Jesus,
you are invited to use whatever language is most meaningful to you.
The following is offered as a suggestion:*

**Our
Father/Mother/Creat
or, 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/sins/trespasses,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass
against us. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the
kingdom,
and the power, and the
glory, for ever. Amen.**

Musical Response *Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup* **CH414**

*All are welcome at this Table
The Bread is gluten free and the Cup is filled with unfermented grape juice.
Let there be no barriers to this feast.*

Musical Offering *Stay with Me* Taize

There is no peace tonight;
the Son of God is restless,
anxious to be on his way.
The darkness is coming ever closer,
the colors are fading,
and heaven is collapsing in on itself.
The silence stretches as the Savior finds his way to the
garden; prayers are left half said,

and the disciples scurry along confused, like pawns in a greater game.
The Savior kneels and prays;
the moment is arriving when the darkness will fold its eerie fingers round him.
Then a twig breaks and a branch sways
and Judas appears in reach of the Savior.
Two sets of eyes,
each longing for a better way meet each
other and pause across a great gulf,
and in silence Judas reaches out,
the faint smell of sweat on his upper lip
hesitation on his breath
trembling in his hands,
that now hold Jesus' shoulders
and the moment heaven implodes
the deal is done
the end joined
the collapsing of the light
the tearing of heaven
the breaking of love with a kiss of betrayal.
It is done- there is no going back.
Is there even a way forward?