

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

April 1, 2021

"Maundy Thursday"

6:30 pm

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

SOLO

"When Twilight Comes"

*When twilight comes and the sun sets, mother hen prepares for night's rest.
As her brood shelters under her wings, she gives the love of God to her nest.
Oh! What joy to feel her warm heartbeat and be near her all night long;
so the young can find repose, then renew tomorrow's song.*

*One day the Rabbi, Lord Jesus, called the twelve to share his last meal.
As the hen tends her young, so for them he spent himself to seek and to heal.
Oh! What joy to be with Christ Jesus, hear his voice, oh! sheer delight,
and receive his servant care: all before the coming night.*

*So gather round once again, friends, touched by fading glow of sun's gold,
And recount all our frail human hopes: the dreams of young and stories of old.
Oh! What joy to pray close together, kneeling as one family,
by a mother's love embraced in the blessed Trinity.*

CONFESSION

L: On the day of his betrayal, Jesus knelt to wash his disciples' feet. Let us confess to God our need for cleansing.

L: God of love and mercy,

P: **You know the words of our mouths and the thoughts in our hearts,
You know our actions and intentions,
You know our priorities and our loyalties,
You know our fears and frailties.**

L: We confess to you our sin.

P: **We confess to you those things we have done and left undone.**

We have not loved one another as you love us.

We have not served one another as you would have us serve.

We have not forgiven those who hurt or disappoint us.

We cling to what we want to be true, rather than what is true.

We continue to live out of fear rather than embrace your offer of abundant life.

- L: We need cleansing, O God.
- P: **Repair us. We need help leaving behind all our brokenness.
Restore us. We need guidance to see what is new and possible.
Open us. Enable us to embrace your forgiveness.
Guide us. Move us beyond our failings and give us the courage to go where you lead.**
- L: God, from whom nothing is hidden, and who knows the motives of our hearts, forgives us all our sins. By grace you have been saved for new life in Christ.
- P: **Thanks be to God!**
- L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- P: **And also with you.**

HYMN ***"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. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTION

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14	Exodus: The First Passover Meal
Mark 14:12-16	A New Passover; Surely, Not I?
John 13:1-16, 34-35	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet
Mark 14:22-26	Take And Eat; Take And Drink
Mark 14:32-42	Jesus Prays in a Garden
Mark 14:43-46	Judas Kisses Jesus

HYMN ***"Where Charity and Love Prevail"***

*Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.*

THE PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

...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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO THE SUPPER

- L: Merciful God, on this night we remember both the gift of the meal, meant to feed and sustain us, and the gift of the example, meant to show us how to follow our Lord.
- P: **Open our eyes, O God of love, so that we may taste and see, experience and participate in the gift of your love poured out tonight on us and on our world.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- L: The Lord be with you.
- P: **And also with you.**
- L: Lift up your hearts.
- P: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- L: We offer you praise, ...

The Words of Institution

- L: We rejoice in this holy meal as we remember the mystery of faith:
- All: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Prayer of Consecration

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

When invited, please come forward down the center aisle. Receive a piece of bread (both wheat and gluten-free bread are available) and a cup from the tray (white is grape juice and red is wine). Return to your seat using the outside aisle. If you are unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

"This is the Body of Christ"

This is the body of Christ, broken that we may be whole; this cup, as promised by God, true to his word, cradles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.

"Bread for the Journey"

Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.

Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.

When our legs are getting heavy, and we're hanging down our heads,

Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.

Guide our way as we travel, guide our way, guide our way as we travel, guide our way.

With so many roads before us where to go is hard to say.

Guide our way as we travel, guide our way.

*Make us one with each other, make us one. Make us one with each other, make us one.
All the walls we've built around us: may we learn to tear them down.
Make us one with each other, make us one.*

*Lead us home to the garden, lead us home. Lead us home to the garden, lead us home;
Where we'll live with all creation, find our place and never roam.
Lead us home to the garden, lead us home.*

*Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.
Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.
When our legs are getting heavy, and we're hanging down our heads,
Give us bread for the journey, give us bread.*

"Eat This Bread"

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

"Stay Here and Keep Watch With Me"

*Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come.
Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray.*

STRIPPING OF THE COMMUNION TABLE

ALL DEPART IN SILENCE

Worship continues on Good Friday at 6:30 pm.

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Good Friday – Worship at 6:30 pm Inside
Easter Sunday – Worship at 9:00 and 10:00 am Inside
Worship at 11:00 am Outside

Worship participants:

Audio/Visual:	Jeff Hoffman, Mike Stifter
Music:	Jamie Mills, Marsha Pearson, David Reilly
Preacher:	Rev. Stacy Johnson Myers