

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ
River Falls, Wisconsin**

April 2, 2026



Maundy Thursday

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

April 2, 2026

Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday is the day we remember Jesus washing his disciples' feet and sharing a final meal with them. During that meal, Jesus transformed a simple loaf of bread and cup of wine into a sacramental meal so disciples of every time and place can encounter Jesus and take him into themselves and their lives.

The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "Mandatum" which means "Commandment." Today we remember the new commandment Jesus gives us:
Love one another.

GATHERING

GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus said: I give you a new commandment that you love one another.

P: **Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know you are my disciple.**

All: **Come let us see Christ's love poured out for us and our world!**

*HYMN

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

Blue #275

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

L: The mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. In the name of Jesus we declare...

P: **In Christ we are forgiven.**

L: May the mercy of God who forgives all our sins....

P: **Strengthen and keep us in all goodness. Amen.**

THE MEAL

L: Hear the words spoken by our Lord this night:

On the night of his arrest and betrayal, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

P: **Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord. With thanksgiving, let us offer God our grateful praise.**

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 God our thanks and praise.

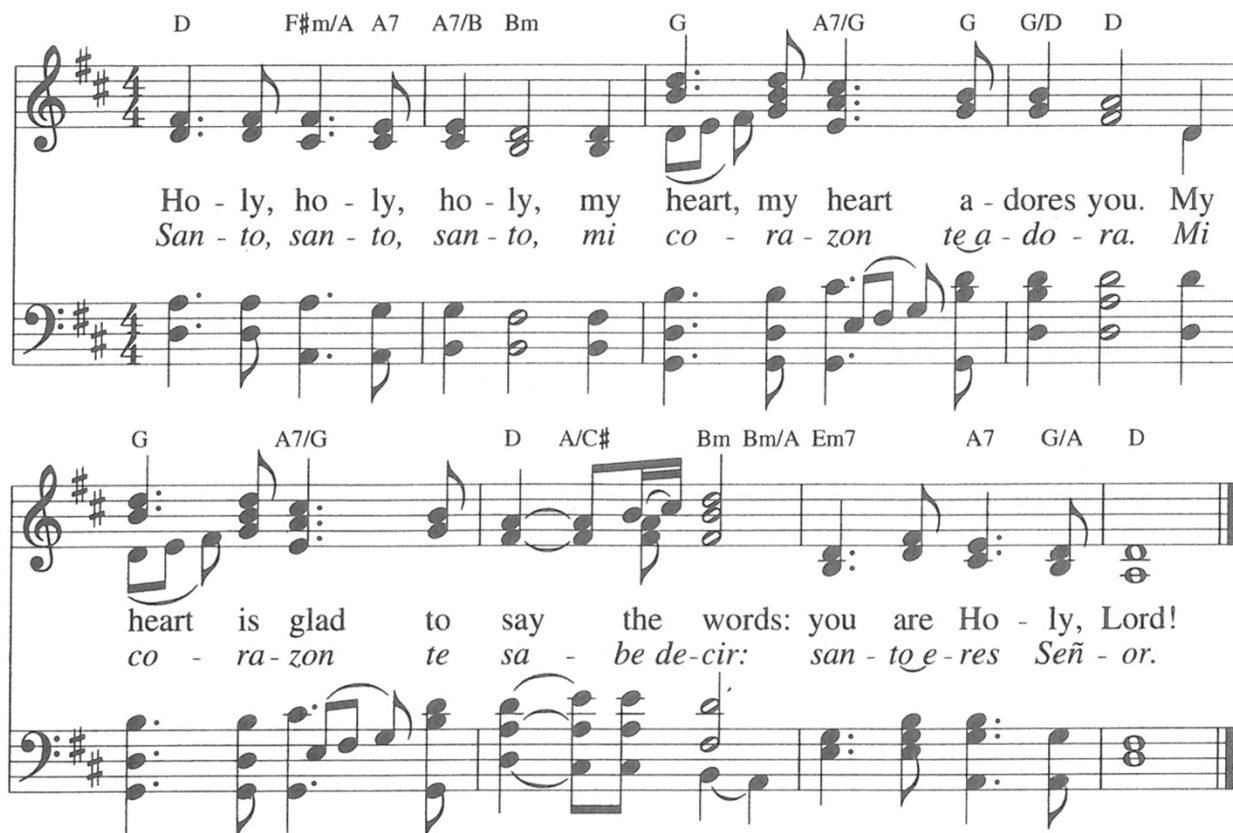
P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: It is good and right... therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the angels and all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Blue #737

Cantor sings once, then all sing once



D F#m/A A7 A7/B Bm G A7/G G G/D D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you. My
San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zon te a - do - ra. Mi

G A7/G D A/C# Bm Bm/A Em7 A7 G/A D

heart is glad to say the words: you are Ho - ly, Lord!
co - ra - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Señ - or.

L: You are holy... the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: Let us pray as our Savior has taught us:

All: 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.

(All Christians are welcome at the Lord's table. The bread is gluten-free.
The cup is alcohol-free. Those choosing not to commune may receive
a blessing from the servers.)

Song of the Lord's Supper

Cantor - verse 1, all - verses 2, 3, 4 and 5



1. We re - mem - ber one who loved us well,
2. We re - mem - ber how he spoke of you,
3. On the night be - fore he suf - fered death,
4. As they sat at ta - ble he took bread,
5. Now we take these gifts of field and vine,



Shared our life, its joy and sor - row, Walked a - mong us as the
Taught us to be - lieve your prom - ise, Showed us all what you are
Je - sus gath - ered his dis - ci - ples, Knelt be - fore them as a
Blest it, broke it, gave it free - ly: "Take this bread and eat it,
Bless and share them in his mem - 'ry: Bread of life and cup of



least of all, Gave him - self in - to our keep - ing.
real - ly like— Faith - ful, ten - der, God of peo - ple:
ser - vant might, Washed their feet and bid them wel - come:
all of you; Take and eat, this is my bod - y."
cov - e - nant, King - dom - feast in pledge and prom - ise.



He is light that dawns for blind - ed eyes,
Not a God to break the wound - ed heart,
"Do you know what I have done for you,
Then he took the cup and passed it round:
When we eat this bread and drink this cup



He is hope for the de - spair - ing; All on earth can find a
Not the thun - der of the might - y, But a God that wel - comes
I who am your Lord and Mas - ter? If I bend to you and
"Take and drink, this is my life - blood, Shed for you and for all
We pro - claim the death of Je - sus, Taste his pres - ence, liv - ing



place with him, Saint and sin - ner at his ta - ble.
sin - ners home, Meets the low - ly with com - pas - sion.
wash your feet, So must you for one an - oth - er."
hu - man - kind, Shed that sins may be for - giv - en."
in our midst, Look for him to come in glo - ry.

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Let us break bread together on our knees;

**Refrain: *When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.***

Let us drink wine together on our knees;

Let us drink wine together on our knees; Refrain

Let us praise God together on our knees;

Let us praise God together on our knees; Refrain

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.

THE WASHING

GOSPEL

John 13:1-17

HOMILY

Love

Rev. Chris Myers

***SONG**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Blue #273

THE SHADOWS

L: Jesus said: I am the light of the world!

P: Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

L: And yet this is the judgement: That the light has come into the world,

P: And we loved darkness rather than light.

PRAYER

First Reading

Jesus is Betrayed

Matthew 26:20-25

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

Second Reading **Peter's Denial is Foretold** **Matthew 26:31-35**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Third Reading **Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives** **Luke 22:39-44**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Fourth Reading **Jesus Prays in Gethsemane** **Mark 14:32-41**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Fifth Reading **Jesus Prays for His Disciples** **John 17:1-6**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Sixth Reading **That They May Be One** **John 17:15-22**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Seventh Reading **The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus** **John 18:1-9**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

Eighth Reading **The Soldiers Mock Jesus** **Mark 15:16-30**

*Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.*

The worship service continues on Good Friday at 6:30 pm with the choir cantata.

