THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY welcomes you to

# Maundy Thursday

Worship



April 14, 6:30pm

# The First Church in Albany (Reformed Church in America)

#### Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made known to us in Jesus Christ, we are called to be a welcoming and affirming community. The First Church in Albany includes young and old, families, couples and singles, rich and poor, persons of various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identities, differing physical and mental abilities, believers and seekers. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where we are loved.

## **Maundy Thursday**

April 14, 2022

**Prelude** 

"In Death's Strong Bonds the Savior Lay"
Iteke Prins, organist

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship Based on Re: Worship

Leader: Gathered friends of Christ, what do we remember tonight?

People: We remember Christ washing his disciples' feet, and the

Passover meal he shared with them.

Leader: In this meal, what does Christ establish?

People: The new covenant, constituted in the breaking of bread and the pouring out of wine.

Leader: What else do we remember tonight?

People: We remember how Christ was praying alone in the garden, and how he was betrayed with a kiss and arrested by guards.

Leader: We also remember how Christ was unjustly tried and sentenced to death by religious and political leaders.

People: And, how he was tortured and ridiculed, all while his disciples abandoned him and even denied their association with him.

Leader: But, what do we ultimately remember about tonight and tomorrow, Good Friday?

People: We remember his spotless hands which were spread wide in blessing and then nailed high on a cross to expunge the sins of the whole world.

Leader: Friends, our forty day Lenten journey has brought us to this night of remembrance. So, let us enter the shadows of this night with reverence, sorrow, but also hope because Christ by his Spirit accompanies us and will bring us to Easter morning.

#### \*Maundy Thursday Introit

Congregation sings (2x)
Christ candle is lit
Children come to table



#### **Prayer for Illumination**

Lord, we wait for you. We wait for you tonight to reveal what you have done for us in a new way. Send your Spirit to help us to keep watch and take heart. Amen.

## **Teaching Text**

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

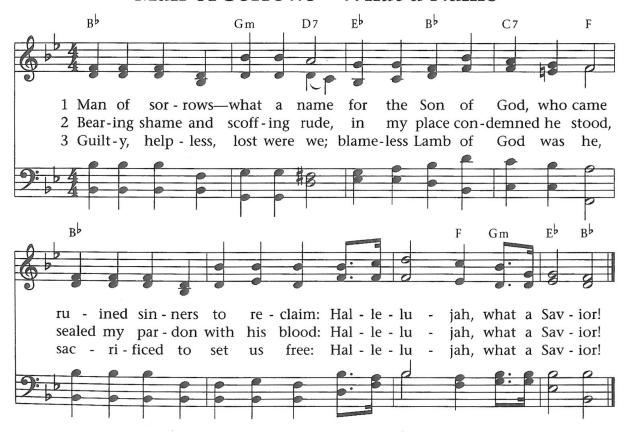
Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, O Christ!** 



#### \*Hymn of Response

(v. 1-3)

#### Man of Sorrows—What a Name



Words and Music (HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR 7.7.7.8): Philip P. Bliss, 1875, alt., P.D.

#### Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

## **Communion Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

#### Sanctus

Holy, holy, Lord God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

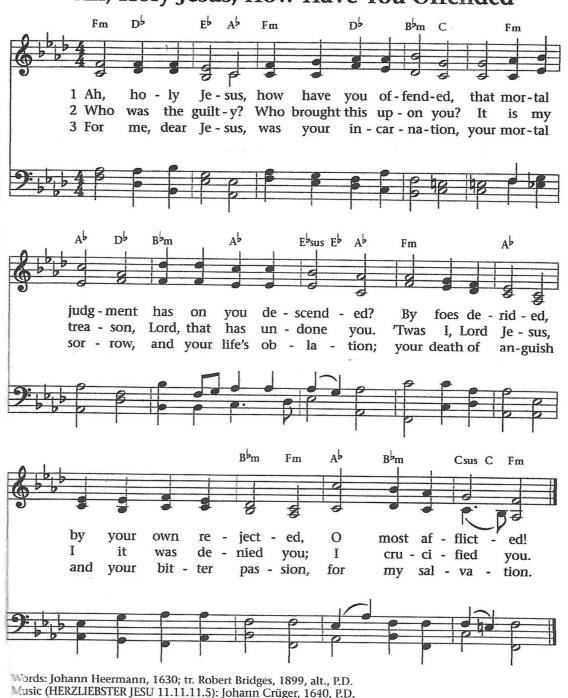
#### Mystery of the Faith

Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!

#### **Commemoration of Communion**

## \*Hymn of Preparation for Service of Shadows

# Ah, Holy Jesus, How Have You Offended



#### The Shadows of Gethsemane

Matthew 26:36-46

Congregation sings (v.1-2)

# Go to Dark Gethsemane



The composer intended this tune for "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (no. 438), but its solemn tone and small range make it an effective setting for this series of somber vignettes portraying what Christians can learn from Christ: to pray, to bear the cross, to die, and to rise.

TEXT: James Montgomery, 1820, 1825, alt. MUSIC: Richard Redhead, 1853

REDHEAD 76

#### The Shadow of Betrayal

Matthew 26:47-50, 55-56 Congregation sings (v.1-2)



This text conveys well the paradox of despair and expectancy felt on Maundy Thursday. The somber repetition of "this night" here contrasts with and prepares for the joyful "this is the night" repeated in the *Exsultet*, the ancient Easter hymn at the lighting of the paschal candle.

TEXT: Peter Abélard, 12th cent.; trans. Richard Lyman Sturch, 1990 MUSIC: Margaret R. Tucker, 1991

Text © 1990 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company

MY NEIGHBOS

11.10.11.13

- 1. Love? This darkest night in history? Christ our Lord commanded love. After Judas left his table, bent on treachery that proved greater than the sin of Adam. "Love each other," Jesus said, "love no matter what the evil, love when hope seems weak and dead."
- 2. Love? He went to his betrayal in the garden late that night, where troops of Satan found him by the flickering torches' light. Love seemed powerless or absent; there he felt sheer evil's press. Love? St. Peter soon denied him, frightened by his own distress.
- 3. Love? We watched the soldiers mock him, crown him with a crown of thorns, dress him in a robe of purple, scourge his body with their scorn. "Here's your King," said timid Pilate. "Crucify him" was our cry. All the love we saw that morning welled within our Savior's eyes.
- 4. Love, our wisdom cannot fathom, love that gave its life for us. Dying he revealed his glory, there upon the cruel cross. Love? He died for his betrayers; hear him cry his final Word: death is routed, "It is finished!" Love has conquered, he is Lord!



# Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed



Much like this author's "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (nos. 223, 224), this more introspective treatment of Christ's crucifixion calls forth self-sacrifice from the beholder. It is set here to a tune that may well have originated as an 18th-century Scottish folk song.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707

MARTYRDOM

MUSIC: Hugh Wilson, c. 1800; adapt. and harm. Robert Smith, 1825

CM



# On a Barren Hilltop

## Come Boldly



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first stanza of this text is based on John 19:17, 30 and the second and third stanzas on Hebrews 4:14–16. These passages and others provide the basis for the classic understanding of the atonement that sees Christ's redeeming work as a victory over all the powers of evil.

KINIC'S WESTON

# When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707 HAMBURG MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824 LM

- 1. When our grief seems dead and over, Jesus Christ descends to hell, shatters darkness and discovers where the loathsome demon dwells.
- 3. Jesus speaks, their haunts are broken; they can find no place to hide. Light surrounds them; all have woken to the light where God abides.
- 5. While we idle, earth's foundations seem to crack, the curtain rends. Ready for our celebrations, we hold myrrh and frankincense.
- 7. Something quaking far below us: stone on stone is breaking up. Jesus harrows hell and shows us nothing's left to us but hope.

#### **Please Leave in Silence**





This 30-minute outdoor service will be followed with light refreshments (baked goods, Easter eggs, coffee, tea and juice), offered via "tailgate" for all who wish to safely gather socially.

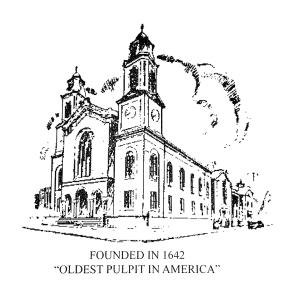
Please bring a lawn chair for your comfort (no seating will be provided).

All are welcome!



At First Church in Albany, we gather each Sunday at 10am for weekly worship. We share in Communion the first Sunday of the month.

We also offer the service via ZOOM. Visit www.firstchurchinalbany.org for the link.



# First Church in Albany

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