



Maundy Thursday Embodied Love

March 28, 2024
7:00 pm

First United Methodist Church
212 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 381-6340 + www.umc-kzo.org

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

***CALL TO WORSHIP** John 13:1-7

Rev. Marilyn Barney

HYMN #432, vs. 1-3 *Jesu, Jesu*

(UMH-red hymnal)

GOSPEL READING John 13:9-17

Rev. Julie Kline

HYMN #432, vs. 4-5 *Jesu, Jesu*

GOSPEL READING John 13:31b-35

Rev. Matt Weiler

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator and Loving God, you kneel to wash our feet, yet we are reluctant for you to see all the places we have gone in our attempts to escape you. You would bathe us in the warm, living waters of your love, though we splash and play in the puddles of temptation. We have received all the gifts you have to offer, yet we are tempted to think they are only for us, rather than sharing them.

Forgive us, Holy One, and have mercy on us. What can we give you for all your wonderful graciousness towards us? As you have broken your heart for us, may we open ours in service to others. As you have given your life for us, may we offer ours to bring healing to the world. As you have called us together around your Table, may we go forth to feed a world hungry, not only for food, but for that Spirit which brings peace and reconciliation. This we pray as servants of Jesus Christ, who came to serve us in life, in death, in resurrection hope.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: On this holiest of nights, we have received the good news: God has come in Christ Jesus, to fill us with hope and peace, to bathe us in grace and mercy.

All: In remembrance, we go forth: to bring hope where despair resides; to be servants to those who are broken; to love as selflessly as we are loved by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

SHARING OUR STORY

You are invited to turn to a neighbor, preferably someone you did not come with, and share with one another a time you have felt the love of a neighbor. Please be sensitive to include everyone, however, simply listening to others or quietly sitting and listening in prayer may bring comfort during this time.

HYMN #2176 *Make Me a Servant*

(FWS-black hymnal)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 *The Message*

Let me go over with you again exactly what goes on in the Lord's Supper and why it is so centrally important. I received my instructions from the Master himself and passed them on to you. The Master, Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, took bread. Having given thanks, he broke it and said, This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.

After supper, he did the same thing with the cup:

This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you. Each time you drink this cup, remember me.

What you must solemnly realize is that every time you eat this bread and every time you drink this cup, you reenact in your words and actions the death of the Master. You will be drawn back to this meal again and again until the Master returns. You must never let familiarity breed contempt.

***HYMN** *What Feast of Love*

What feast of love__ is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en? What
What light of truth__ is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en? What
What wine of love__ is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en? What
food of ev - er last - ing life, What gra - cious gift is giv - en?
hope of ev - er last - ing life, What won - drous word is giv - en?
stream of ev - er last - ing life, What pre - cious blood is giv - en?
This, this__ is Christ the King, The bread come down from heav - en.
This, this__ is Christ the King, The Sun come down from heav - en.
This, this__ is Christ the King, The sweet - est wine of heav - en.
O taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
O see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
O taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text, Delores Dufner, OSB, ©1986, 1993, The Sisters of St. Benedict. Published by OCP.

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BLESSING THE ELEMENTS

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, O God,
and on these gifts of bread and cup,
that they may be for us the Body and Blood of the Beloved, Jesus Christ.

All: **Renew your Spirit within us, O God,
grant us the peace of Christ,
and unite us with all who share in this meal.**

One: God of mercy, set us free, and free all your beloved children.

All: **May your Spirit live in us, that we may be fearless in love,
and unafraid to give of ourselves.**

One: Make us your humble servants for the healing of the world,
according to your will.

All: **May your Word be made flesh by all your holy Church,
in the love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

RECEIVING THE BREAD & CUP

You are invited this evening to serve your neighbor. We will begin with the juice, as you receive from your neighbor, place your cup in the holder before you and then take the tray and offer to your neighbor. As the bread is passed, take a piece, and then offer to your neighbor. Please wait until all are served and we will receive the bread and cup together. Our bread this evening is gluten free.

COMMUNION HYMN #628 *Eat This Bread*

(UMH-red hymnal)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GOSPEL READING Matthew 26:36-38 *The Message*

HYMN #2198 *Stay With Me*



STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

READING *Gethsemane* by Mary Oliver

The grass never sleeps. Or the roses. Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning. Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept. The cricket has such splendid fringe on its feet, and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body, and heaven knows if it ever sleeps. Jesus said, wait with me. And maybe the stars did, maybe the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move, maybe the lake far away, where once he walked as on a blue pavement, lay still and waited, wild awake. Oh, the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not keep that vigil, how they must have wept, so utterly human, knowing this too must be a part of the story.

Please exit the sanctuary in silence.

Good Friday Worship

March 29 @ 7 pm

Rev. Matt Weiler

Good Friday Worship

Isaiah 52:13-53:12, John 18:1-19:42

We remember the power and promise of the crucifixion.

Easter Sunday Worship

March 31 at 10:00 am

Rev. Julie Kline

Terror and Amazement

Mark 16:1-8

Come celebrate the amazing resurrection power of God.

Child care for children ages 0 - 3 years old will be available on Easter Sunday in Room 208.
Children's "Godly Play" will be offered after the children's message during the 10 am Easter worship
for children age 4 through 11.

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 am.

Sunday School resumes for all ages at 11:00 am on April 7.

Sunday morning child care is available on the second floor from 9:45 am – 12:15 pm.

OUR MISSION

We are called to
Experience God's love
Celebrate God's love
Share God's Love

OUR VISION

We are a Christ-centered
community where our stories are
woven with God's story.

OUR VALUES

Love
Community
Inclusion
Justice

Leading us in worship this evening

Rev. Julie Kline • Rev. Matt Weiler
Jacqueline Stilger, Director of Music; Bernie Foulk, Organist
Rev. Marilyn Barney, Liturgist; Kait Garrison, Flute

We are a Reconciling Congregation, welcoming all.

First United Methodist Church of Kalamazoo invites all persons
to join us on our journey of faith. Jesus Christ calls us to be an inclusive church that
exemplifies the kingdom of God. We strive to move toward reconciling
relationships with all, affirming those who are marginalized for any reason,
including sexual orientation or gender identity.

We welcome all with *open hearts, open minds, open doors.*

Jesu, Jesu

Refrain (Unison)

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

Fine

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2. Neigh-bors are rich and poor, neigh-bors are black and
 3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are
 5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

D.C.

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 white, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 slaves, this is the way we should live with you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

WORDS: Tom Colvin, 1969 (Jn. 13:1-17)

MUSIC: Ghana folk song; adapt. by Tom Colvin, 1969; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1988

CHERE PONI
Irr. with Refrain

2176

Make Me a Servant

Make me a ser-vant, hum-ble and meek, Lord, let me
lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my
heart al-ways be: Make me a ser-vant, make me a

WORDS: Kelly Willard (John 13:14-16)

MUSIC: Kelly Willard

MAKE ME A SERVANT

Irregular

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Eat This Bread

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Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and
nev-er be hun-gry. Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

WORDS: Robert Batastini and the Taizé Community, 1982 (Jn. 6:35)

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

BERTHIER

Irr.

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