

ORDER OF SERVICE

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 1, 2010

Welcome to this service of worship as we see the Passion of our Lord through the gospel according to Mark. A special welcome to our brothers and sisters in Christ from Stittsville United Church as we worship together tonight here and tomorrow with you at your church. May this service of Tenebrae and Communion be a time of reflection and contemplation as we prepare ourselves for Good Friday and Easter.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AND TENEBRAE

The service will proceed unannounced.

ENTRANCE *(Please remain seated as the minister enters)*

HYMN "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" # 233
(Verse 1 will be a solo and the rest of the verses we will sing together)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Many years ago on a night like this the disciples gathered.

All: They gathered in an upper room to share a meal with Jesus.

One: Jesus was their teacher.

ALL: Jesus was their Rabbi.

One: Jesus was their Messiah.

ALL: Jesus was their friend.

One: Many years later on this night his disciples still gather.

All: We gather with Jesus tonight to remember his last supper.

One: As we gather, may we remember, and may we give thanks.

ALL: Let us worship God through Jesus our teacher, our saviour and our friend. Let us worship God.

HYMN "When I survey the wondrous cross" # 231
(Please remain seated for hymn)

OPENING PRAYER

the Rev. Grant Dillenbeck

ANTHEM

"THE UPPER ROOM"

SILENCE

A moment to reflect...

HYMN

"A new commandment"

225

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*A service of Holy Communion from the year A.D. 70
(Congregational Responses)*

Responsive Prayers:

We give you thanks... through Jesus your servant.

All: Glory be to you, our God, world without end.

We give you thanks... through Jesus your servant.

All: Glory be to you, our God, world without end.

Just as this bread... into your kingdom.

**All: Yours is the glory and the power,
through Jesus Christ, forever and ever.**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup:

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed...

The Blood of Christ;

The Cup of the New Covenant;

The Cup of Salvation.

We all take Communion together...

Prayers after Communion

We give you thanks... through Jesus your servant.

All: Glory be to you, our God, world without end.

You, Almighty master.. because you are mighty;

All: Glory be to you, our God, world without end.

Remember your Church... you have prepared for it;

**All: Yours is the power and the Glory
for ever and ever.**

May Grace come and may this world pass away.

All: Hosanna to the God of David.

If anyone is holy, let them come; if anyone is not,
let them repent.

All: Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Amen.

HYMN

“O sacred head, sore wounded”
(Please stand for this hymn)

239

TENEBRAE

(The darkness grows)

THE PASSION OF JESUS
ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF MARK

- READING 1: BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS
Mark 14:32-50
- READING 2: JESUS BEFORE THE CHIEF PRIESTS
Mark 14:53-65
- READING 3: PETER DENIES JESUS
Mark 14:66-72
- READING 4: JESUS SENTENCED TO DEATH
Mark 15:1-15
- READING 5: ROAD TO GOLGOTHA
Mark 15:16-24
- READING 6: CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS
Mark 15:25-32
- READING 7: DEATH OF JESUS
Mark 15:33-39

CHRIST CANDLE IS REMOVED

STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

BENEDICTION

SILENT RECESSION

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You are encouraged to leave the sanctuary in silent meditation.

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for this Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service. We look forward to gathering together again tomorrow at Stittsville United Church at 10:00 a.m. for a service or readings, hymns, and symbols of Holy Week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE: The word Maundy comes from the Latin word “mandatum” meaning commandment. It is a reminder of Jesus commandment to his disciples in John 13:34-35, *“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”* For Maundy Thursday services, churches often combine that aspect of the new commandment with a “Tenebrae Service”. Tenebrae means darkness, and although it originally was simply a reference to a service held in the evening, it has now become associated with a service in which candles are extinguished as the congregation hears the words about Jesus suffering and death read from scripture. By the end of the service the sanctuary is in darkness (tenebrae) and the congregation leaves in silent meditation. There is also an ancient practice associated with this service that before the benediction is pronounced the sanctuary is stripped of all decorations, and it remains unadorned until Easter Sunday. According to one source, this practice was primarily liturgical, but also had a practical application as well. Since the church would undergo a good spring-cleaning between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, having all of the decorations removed before

people left on Maundy Thursday was a big help to the people cleaning the church.

HOLY COMMUNION: The service we are using for communion this evening is the oldest known text of a full service of communion. It comes from approximately A.D. 70 in a document known as the “Didache” or “The teaching of the Apostles”. Please come forward down the centre aisle, receive the sacrament, and return to your pew by the side aisle. The method for celebrating the sacrament this evening will be by intinction. This means that you will take a piece from the common loaf of bread, and then dip it in the goblet of wine. Then you immediately place it in your mouth. This method reminds us of the fact that we are one body in the one loaf, and in the one cup of salvation.



COMING FORWARD TO RECEIVE THE ELEMENTS: From 1560 until well into the 1830s Presbyterians in Scotland received the sacrament by coming forward and receiving the sacrament around the table at the front of the church. Only in the 1830s did the idea take hold that communion could be served to people in their pews.

