

**MAUNDY THURSDAY at the  
WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2009

7:00 p.m.

*On this night Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciple's feet (John 13:1-17) and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:13-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25).*

*Footwashing is a powerful symbolic response to the Word, dramatizing the servanthood of Jesus, both on the night before his death and in his continuing presence in our midst. The alternative title for this day, Maundy Thursday, recalls the new commandment (mandatum novum in Latin) in John 13:34. The service may appropriately be called Maundy Thursday when footwashing occurs in imitation of Jesus' actions and as a response to his new commandment to love one another.*

*The ancient practice of stripping the Lord's table and the sanctuary following communion is a vivid and dramatic way of showing the desolation and abandonment of the long night in Gethsemane and what followed. Designated persons pick up the cloths on the Lord's table and the pulpit and other hangings, banners, candlesticks, and decorations and quietly carry them from the sanctuary. The church remains bare until the first service of Easter.*

**THE PEOPLE GATHER**

**THE PRELUDE** "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone" by Allen/Wells

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE INTROIT** . . . . . Let It Breathe On Me . . . . . **UMH 503**

**GREETING**

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

Leader: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**PEOPLE: CHRIST HAS PREPARED A FEAST OF LOVE**

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

LEADER:

My sisters and brothers,  
Christ shows us his love by becoming a humble servant.  
Let us draw near to God  
and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

*A brief silence for individual confession.*

**PEOPLE:**

**Most merciful God,  
we your Church confess  
that often our spirit has not been that of Christ.  
Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us,  
where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips  
and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him,  
forgive us, we pray;  
and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

LEADER:

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ.  
But Christ suffered and died for us,  
was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us,  
and continues to intercede for us.  
Believe the good news:  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**PEOPLE:**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
Glory to God. Amen.**

**HYMN** (standing) . . Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast . . . . . **UMH 616**

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** ..... Exodus 12:1-14

**PSALM 116:1-2,12-19** ..... **UMH 837**

**EPISTLE LESSON** ..... 1<sup>ST</sup> Corinthians 11:23-26

**A HYMN** ..... What Wondrous Love Is This ..... **UMH 292**

**GOSPEL LESSON** ..... John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**MEDITATION**

**SOLO** ..... "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

**FOOTWASHING** - Several persons have been selected to represent the congregation for foot-washing.

**HYMN (seated)** ..... One Bread, On Body ..... **UMH 620**

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

**A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III** ..... **UMH 15**

**STRIPPING THE CHURCH**

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Go forth in peace.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. Amen.

*An offering plate has been placed at the entrance to the sanctuary.  
You may place your offering there.*



**WILLIAMSBURG UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

"Loving God, Loving People, Serving the World"

