First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17, 2025

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion

PRELUDE Prélude au Kyrie, from 'Hommage à Frescobaldi' Jean Langlais
Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME Reverend David Rice

*CALL TO WORSHIP Erin Guzmán

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

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

All: On this day Jesus gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

One: On this day Jesus gathered with his disciples in the upper room, took a towel and washed the disciples' feet,

showing us that we should do to others as God has done to us.

All: On this day Jesus gave us this holy feast,
that we who eat this bread and drink this cup
may here proclaim his holy sacrifice
and live into God's grace for the sake of the world.

*PRAYER

God of life and death
we wait in hope.
God of all the worlds that are
we wait in hope.
God of dazzling darkness
we wait in hope.
We wait in hope and awe. Amen

Ruth Burgess

The choir will sing the first verse, and the congregation will join in on verses 2-5.

CONFESSION

God Beyond All Names, 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 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 and cleanse 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.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

(Silence is kept for personal prayers)

RESPONSE 227 (repeat 3 times)

Jacques Berthier

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . And also with you.

THE GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 34-35

A TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION

ANTHEM

O Sacrum Convivium (O Sacred Feast)

James Biery

O Christ, come and dwell within through this sacred mystery;

we celebrate the memory of your holy Passion!

Jesus' love enfolds our hearts.

We receive your covenant of eternal glory. Alleluia

The Sanctuary Choir with Eric J. Gastier, Director of Music & Organist

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN 202

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

O WALY WALY

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Epitaphe, from '24 Pieces en style libre'

Louis Vierne

The asterisk (*) indicates places in the service where those who are able are invited to stand.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursday April 17 7:00 p.m. — Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

Friday April 18 7:00 p.m. — Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday April 20 9:15 a.m. — Sunday School/Easter Egg Hunt

10:15 a.m. — Organ and Brass Prelude

10:30 a.m. — Easter Service and Communion in the Sanctuary

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network Earth Care Congregation and Matthew 25 Church

Earth Care Pledge: Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

The Mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace. We are called to achieve this goal by furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and by working for the unity of the PC(USA).

The Mission of More Light Presbyterians: Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

The Mission of the Matthew 25 Church: Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We commit ourselves to congregational vitality by acting boldly and compassionately to end systemic poverty and structural racism, serving people who are oppressed, imprisoned, poor.

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