

A rustic wooden chalice with a wide, shallow bowl and a flared base, standing on a dark, textured surface. To its right, several pieces of light-colored, irregularly shaped bread are scattered. The background is dark and slightly blurred, suggesting a wooden table or similar surface. The overall mood is solemn and traditional.

*Maundy
Thursday*

First Presbyterian Church

Established 1876

First Presbyterian Church
Maundy Thursday
April 2, 2026

Prelude *“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”* G. P. Telemann

Call To Worship

A table is set before us. A feast is prepared for us.

A meal of bread and wine, of meat and bitter herbs.

The Lord calls us to this day of remembrance.

The Lord calls us to serve and to be served.

A story stands to be told. A story of loss and of love.

A story that reveals our best and our worst.

Even in betrayal and uncertainty, love remains.

Let us worship the One who loves us to the end.

Introit..... *“When Jesus Wept”* Lee Kjelson

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Surely, Lord, we profess- I would never betray you, never deny you. And yet, during this holy week, we must confess to our betrayal, to our denial. Forgive us, Lord and let us see ourselves clearly. Give us the faith to doubt our righteousness. Give us grace to confess how our promises are broken. Give us the peace to be troubled by our smugness, and repent. Open our eyes to see that you see, you know, and yet even knowing, you love us still.

(A moment of silent personal confession)

* Assurance of Forgiveness

* Hymn 101 (vs. 1) *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*HAMBURG

**When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture ReadingMatthew 26:20-29.....NT Page 30

HomilySurely Not I?.....Rev. Leslie Roper

* Hymn 76 *“My Song Is Love Unknown”* LOVE UNKNOWN

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper (all are invited to participate)

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer Traditional, Hymnal Page 16

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Eternal God, it is right to give... singing joyfully of your wondrous love:

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the heavy cross for my soul.**

Your love in Jesus Christ is wondrous... for the wonder of this gift:

**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

And so gather us with those millions... to sing with all creation forever and ever:

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

You are invited to come forward to receive communion by intinction.

Closing Prayer

Stripping of the Sanctuary

Hymn 93..... *"Ah, Holy Jesus"* HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Anthem..... *"Father, Forgive Them"*Pepper Choplin

Closing Litany

The light of Christ has been put out,

And we sit darkness.

Christ's body lays in the tomb,

And we return to our homes.

Resurrection promises hope, but first it requires death,

So we wait in the darkness of death for the light that is to come.

* Closing Hymn No. 102 (vs. 1)..... “*Were You There?*” WERE YOU THERE

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

As we leave this evening, please leave in silence and drop the nails you received as you entered into the tin containers. May the sounds and shadows of the evening remind us of the obedience to death that Jesus endured for us.

*Congregation Standing (Please remain seated if standing is uncomfortable.)



Join us on Easter morning at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast and an all-ages youth Easter egg hunt. The Fellowship Committee will provide juice, fruit and pastries. Members are asked to bring a breakfast item. At 10:30 a.m. during worship we will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus. Come be a part of this celebratory morning!

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received Easter morning during worship. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

The Church Office will close at 12 noon tomorrow, April 3, and all day on Easter Monday, April 6.

Welcome Visitors! Please take a moment to fill out the visitor information card, located in the pew in front of you. Please drop them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We'd love to get to know you better! After Worship, join us for a time of fellowship and beverages in the Fellowship Hall. There, you'll find the Welcome Center, with more information about our church!

Children are always welcome in worship at First Presbyterian Church. Older children are encouraged to participate in worship and are welcome to pick up pre-packed activities on the table in the back of the sanctuary just for them. A nursery is available upstairs for children under 5. Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

Please remember to recycle your bulletins by placing them in the blue recycle container in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

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