

At the close of the service the bell tolls seven times, slowly and deliberately, to mark the fullness of the sufferings of Christ.

\*Stripping of the altar

*The ancient practice of stripping the Lord's table and 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. This may be done in silence. The church then remains bare until the Easter Sunrise, when the process is reversed.*

*There is no Benediction because the events of this night do not conclude until Easter morning resurrection. Keep the faith in vigil through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please leave the sanctuary silently.*

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Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors	Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Bob Schumacher, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Kim Opperman, Sunday Nursery Supervisor	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

**April 1, 2021** **MAUNDY THURSDAY** **7:00 p.m.**

**PRELUDE** "Go To Dark Gethsemene"

Leader: This is a night to remember, the night when Jesus was betrayed.  
Are you ready to come to the feet of Christ, whose life was poured out for you?

Leader: Can you watch while Jesus prays in the garden?

Leader: Will you follow Jesus, even into the night of betrayal?

**ALL:** We remember this night and thank God, even in the hours of darkness,  
for Jesus' presence with us.

Though you are God, with all the influence and status that the name implies, you refused to pull rank, and parade your power among us. Instead, you chose to step down into our experience, living among us, as one of us, with all the struggle and suffering that goes with being human. More than that, you adopted the role of slave, washing feet, serving people of no reputation or social standing, and giving of yourself completely. As incredible as it sounds, you are the God who serves, and we can respond in no other way than to give ourselves to you in praise. Amen.

## THAT DARK THURSDAY NIGHT: A MAUNDY THURSDAY READING

READING TWO	Foot Washing	Darren Caywood
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READING THREE	Gethsemane	Fred Scheer
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**\*HYMN 257** “What Wondrous Love Is This” vrs. 1,2

## A TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

<b>SPECIAL SOLO</b>	<b>"He Never Said a Mumblin Word"</b>	<b>David Hainer</b>
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## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the one true vine. I pray that you will come into my heart and soul, that I may be united to you, by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit. Let me receive you, and be nourished by you. Become for me the manna in my wilderness, for my very human journey through time, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. I pray all this, trusting that you yourself are our Life, our Peace, and our everlasting Joy. Amen.

## PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Let us pray: O God, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, by your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in ministry to all the world. Now be one with us as we prayer together.....Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.

**\*HYMN 261**                      “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”