



*a diverse, inclusive church experiencing and reflecting the love, hope and joy of Jesus Christ
to each other and our community*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP | MAUNDY THURSDAY | APRIL 2, 2026

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

What Wondrous Love is This | arr. Sarah Douglas

Chuck Stanley, organ

Sarah Douglas | © 2000 Lorenz Corporation ASCAP | text: © 2000 Lorenz Corporation | all rights reserved
used with permission under One License #A-726973

WELCOME | Pastor Monique McBride

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** | Pastor Cathy Johns

Tonight is a night for tables with room for everyone,

Old stories full of liberation and hope, and traditions that span not only time, but also faith.

Tonight's story goes back to the journey of Moses and the Israelites seeking freedom from captivity.

It takes a detour with Jesus and his friends in the Upper Room.

It travels to today where two roads converge in tradition, food, resilience, solidarity, and hope.

As we recall the rich symbolism of the seder meal and dig deeper into what Jesus was doing that sacred night, may we find our place in the story and make room at the table for others.

Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN**

On the Night He Was Arrested | BEECHER

On the night he was arrested, Jesus took a loaf of bread.

He gave thanks to God in heaven, then he shared it and he said,

"Here's my body; it is broken. Now I give it; taste and see!

When you share at God's good table, eat the bread! Remember me!"

When they'd finished eating supper, Jesus gave them something new.

As he took the cup he told them, "Drink this wine; it is for you.

It's the promise of salvation. In my blood, God sets you free.

When you share at God's good table, drink the wine! Remember me!"

God, we thank you for your blessings — for your gifts of bread and wine.

By your Spirit, Christ is present in the fruit of grain and vine.

With these gifts of earth we're given, we proclaim Christ's sacrifice.

We receive a taste of heaven, as we share his death and life.

Carolyn Winfree Gillette | text: © 2015 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette | all rights reserved | music: public domain | CCLI License # 487103

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 12:14-20 | Common English Bible | Pastor Doug Johns

"This day will be a day of remembering for you. You will observe it as a festival to the Lord. You will observe it in every generation as a regulation for all time. You will eat unleavened bread for seven days. On the first day you must remove yeast from your houses because anyone who eats leavened bread any time during those seven days will be cut off

from Israel. The first day and the seventh day will be a holy occasion for you. No work at all should be done on those days, except for preparing the food that everyone is going to eat. That is the only work you may do. You should observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because on this precise day I brought you out of the land of Egypt in military formation. You should observe this day in every generation as a regulation for all time. In the first month, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day, you should eat unleavened bread. For seven days no yeast should be found in your houses because whoever eats leavened bread will be cut off from the Israelite community, whether the person is an immigrant or a native of the land. You should not eat anything made with yeast in all your settlements. You should eat only unleavened bread."

Luke 22:1-20 | Common English Bible

The Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called Passover, was approaching. The chief priests and the legal experts were looking for a way to kill Jesus, because they were afraid of the people. Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve. He went out and discussed with the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard how he could hand Jesus over to them. They were delighted and arranged payment for him. He agreed and began looking for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them—a time when the crowds would be absent.

The Day of Unleavened Bread arrived, when the Passover had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John with this task: "Go and prepare for us to eat the Passover meal."

They said to him, "Where do you want us to prepare it?"

Jesus replied, "When you go into the city, a man carrying a water jar will meet you. Follow him to the house he enters. Say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher says to you, "Where is the guestroom where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?"' He will show you a large upstairs room, already furnished. Make preparations there." They went and found everything just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When the time came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles joined him. He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I tell you, I won't eat it until it is fulfilled in God's kingdom." After taking a cup and giving thanks, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on I won't drink from the fruit of the vine until God's kingdom has come." After taking the bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup after the meal and said, "This cup is the new covenant by my blood, which is poured out for you.

These are the words of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

OFFERING

worshiping through the offering of our lives and gifts

- Place offerings in the plates or wooden boxes
- Give online at christchurchfl.org/give
- Text GIVE to 954.880.3885
- Mail a check to Christ Church, 4845 NE 25th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308

Connect cards may also be placed with your offering. Christ Church is a congregationally supported ministry. We thank you for your faithfulness as we reflect the love, hope and joy of Jesus to our community.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Remember Me | Deborah Govenor

Chancel Choir

In the night in which our savior was betrayed, he broke the bread and to his friends he said: "Take and eat, this is my body given for you; take and drink, this blood of mine is shed for you. Do this always to remember me." In the night in which our savior was denied, he bowed his head, and to the Father cried: "If it be your will, let this cup pass from me; if it be your will, spare me this agony. In my darkest hour will you remember me? Remember me." In the night in which my deepest doubts are known, you come to me and I am not alone. When I taste your blood and body given for me, when I hear your prayer in dark Gethsemane, then I know you will remember me. O Lord, remember me.

INVITATION TO THE PASSOVER SEDER | Pastor Monique McBride

HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together | The United Methodist Hymnal No. 618 (verse 1,2,3)

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

(refrain) **When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. *(refrain)*

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. *(refrain)*

William Farley Smith | © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House | CCLI License # 487103

During the singing of the hymn, please make your way to the gym and find a seat at a dining table.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We are thankful for these festival lights and for coming together to celebrate Passover. May these candles remind us that we must help and not hurt, cause joy and not sorrow, create and not destroy, and help all to be free. Amen.

THE SEDER ELEMENTS

KIDDUSH | The First Cup: Our Dreams of Freedom

Tonight, we tell the story of how God's people were enslaved and oppressed in Egypt thousands of years ago. Yet, we should not forget that there are still many people today who are victims of oppression. Oppression from slavery, racism, discrimination, ignorance, greed, hatred, selfishness, and even pollution of our environment. We can also be in slavery to fear, to anxiety, and to apathy. As we drink the first cup, let us imagine a world in which we are all free from suffering and slavery in all its forms.

KARPAS | Eating Greens

Tonight, we stop to honor our tears and the broken places in our lives. Tonight, we tell ancient stories of struggle and sacrifice which birthed new life. May these stories give us hope and courage that new life will come to us and to all who shed tears.

YACHATZ | Dividing the Middle Matzah

Tonight, we lift up the bread of affliction to you without eating it. In doing so, we remember all who go without bread tonight.

MANISHTANA | The Four Questions

THE MAGGID | The Story of Passover

SONG

Go Down, Moses | arr. Harry T. Burleigh
Phil Woodard

Harry T. Burleigh | © 2001 by Hal Leonard Corporation | all rights reserved | used with permission under One License #A-726973

TEN PLAGUES PRAYER

These plagues are in the past. As we know all too well, today's world holds plagues as well. Let us also lift up modern plagues and the many sicknesses that infect us both physically and spiritually.

DAYENU | It Would Have Been Enough for Us

(refrain) **Dai dayenu, Oh, Dai, Dayenu, Oh, Dai, Dayenu,
Dayenu, Dayenu**

MIRIAM'S CUP

Tonight, we honor the women who teach us compassion, courage, and strength. May we know them. May we be them. May we raise them.

THE SECOND CUP | Our Struggle Against Oppression

Tonight, we sit in solidarity with the oppressed. If we see oppression around us, may we seek the courage of Moses to stand up and fight against it. May we live lives of compassion and awareness to the oppression of others in all forms.

THE ELEMENTS OF HARDSHIP | Matza, Maror, & Charoset

Tonight, we eat the matza and the *maror* with charoset, the sweet mixture of apples which reminds us of the mortar used by the Jews to make bricks while enslaved. We eat the matza of freedom and the maror and charoset of slavery together as a sandwich, remembering that when people are not free, there is always hope for freedom.

THE ORANGE | The Modern Element of Inclusion

Tonight, we recognize that justice and freedom are still not available for all people because of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, or other forms of oppression. Tonight, we share the fruit of the orange, recognizing the blessedness and connection of all people. Passover teaches us that no one is free until all who are oppressed are free. Let us pray together that soon all people will be able to shed their thick skins that protect them, expose their vulnerabilities, and delight in each other with appreciation instead of fear.

THE AFIKOMEN | The Dessert Matza

THE THIRD CUP | Our Responsibility to Justice

Tonight, we remember that freedom from suffering is something we are all striving for, and how we live our lives can bring change to this world.

ELIJAH'S CUP

Tonight, we pray for redemption and freedom for all. With this extra cup, we honor all the people who have lost their lives in the struggle for freedom. We think about those who continue today to struggle for freedom. We send our prayers of compassion to people everywhere and hope that this seder will inspire us to take action to help them in the coming year.

SONG

Alleluia

Cathy Johns

Jerry Sinclair | © 1972 Manna Music, Inc. | CCLI License # 487103

THE FOURTH CUP | Our Commitment to Peace

With the completion of the seder, we renew our commitment to peace and harmony, we remember that when others are oppressed it is as if it is happening to us.

HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

Join us

Good Friday | april 3

Including presentation of Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*

7pm | fort lauderdale sanctuary

EASTER | april 5

6:30am | sunrise service | christ church field

9am | praise service | gym

10:30am | egg hunt

11am | traditional service | fort lauderdale sanctuary