



*Caiaphas*  
Matthias Stomer, 1630

# Maundy Thursday

THE SANCTUARY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TULSA

APRIL 1, 2021

*Seven-thirty in the evening*

## The Words of Preparation

Please enter humbly, worship deeply, and leave quietly this evening with your heart centered on the suffering of Christ for you and your salvation.

Maundy Thursday marks three key events: (1) Jesus' washing of his disciples' feet, (2) his institution of the Lord's Supper, and (3) his new commandment to love one another. This service begins the Triduum {TRID- oo-um}, the three -day period from sunset on Thursday to sunset on Ester Day.

The name 'Maundy Thursday' comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, (new commandment) referring to that 'new commandment' Jesus taught his disciples (John 13:34). In other words, this is 'new commandment Thursday.' Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you."

## The Welcome

Rev. Wally Johnson

## The Silence

## The Anthem

How Beautiful Twila Paris, arr. Lloyd Larson  
*Jaclyn Metcalf and Taylor Conley, soloists*

How beautiful the hands that served the wine and the bread and the children of earth. How beautiful the feet that walked the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross. *How beautiful is the body of Christ.* How beautiful the heart that bled, that took all my sin and bore it instead. How beautiful the tender eyes that chose to forgive and never despise. *How beautiful is the body of Christ.* And as he laid down his life, we offer this sacrifice that we will live just as he died: willing to pay the price. How beautiful the feet that bring the sound of good news and the love of the King. How



“As you go into the city,” he told them, “you’ll see a certain man. Tell him, “the Teacher says: ‘my time has come and I will eat the Passover meal with my disciples at your house.’”  
So the disciples did as Jesus told them and prepared the Passover meal there.

**The Homily** “Take Eat.....Drink.....And Remember Me.”

*On the night in which Jesus was betrayed...* Matthew 26:17-22

**The Invitation to the Table**

Words of Institution

Prayer of Blessing

Sharing the Bread and Cup

The Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

***The Service of Tenebrae***

*The Night of Shadows*

**The Solo**

Sing to Jesus

Fernando Ortega

*Eric Baird, soloist*

Come and see, look on this mystery, the Lord of the universe, on bended knee! Christ our God, ready to shed His blood, bowing in anguish, His sacred head.

*Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame, Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great Redeemer! Sing to Jesus, honor His name, sing of His faithfulness, pouring His life out unto death!*

Come, you weary, and He will give you rest; come you who mourn, lay on His breast! Christ the Lord, bearing our deepest sin, giver of mercy, draw close to Him!

Sing to Jesus, His is the throne, now and forever, He is the King of Heaven! Sing to Jesus, we are His own, now and forever --sing for the love our God has shown!

*Narrator: Judith Land*

Ye who think of sin but lightly, nor suppose the evil great, here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate. Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load. 'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

*Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted*

**The Prophetic Witness** Isaiah 53:2, 3

My servant was despised and rejected —a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised and we did not care. We turned our backs on him. We looked the other way. We did not care.

The Silence

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**The Hymn**

Ah, Holy Jesus?

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended, that mortal judgment has on you descended? By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? It is my treason, Lord, that has undone you. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied you; I crucified you.

For me, dear Jesus, was your incarnation, your mortal sorrow, and your life's oblation, your death of anguish and your bitter passion, for my salvation.

## **The Religious Leaders' Conspiracy**

Matthew 26:1-5

After Jesus finished teaching in the temple, he said to his disciples, "Passover begins in two days and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

At that same time, the leading priests and elders were meeting at the residence of Caiaphas, the high priest, plotting how to capture Jesus secretly and kill him. "But not during the Passover celebration," they agreed, "or the people may riot."

A Member of the Sanhedrin

Rev. James Estes

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## **The Anointing at Simon the Leper's House**

Matthew 26:6-13

Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Simon, a man Jesus had healed of leprosy. While they were eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume, went over to Jesus and poured the ointment on his head.

The disciples were indignant when they saw this. "What a waste!" they said. "It could have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor."

But Jesus, aware of this, said, "Wait! Why criticize this woman for doing this good thing for me. You'll always have the poor with you, but you'll not always have me. She's poured this perfume over me to prepare my body for burial.

I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's act will be remembered and shared."

The Woman with the Alabaster Jar

Julia Metcalf

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## **The Plot to Betray Jesus**

Matthew 26:14-16

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went to the leading priests and asked, "How much will you pay me to betray Jesus to you?" And they gave him thirty pieces of silver. From that time on, Judas began looking for an opportunity to betray him.

Judas, the Betrayer

Jonathan Miller

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## **The Last Supper and the Disciples' Bravado**

Matthew 26:22-22, 31-35

When it was evening, Jesus sat down at the table with the Twelve. While they were eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me." Greatly distressed, each one asked in turn, "Am I the one, Lord?"

On the way, Jesus told them, "Tonight all of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, 'God will strike[a] the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.”

Peter declared, “Even if everyone else deserts you, I will never desert you.” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.”

“No!” Peter insisted. “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!” *And all the other disciples vowed the same.*

### The Disciples’ Insistence

Dr. Jim Miller

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### **The Solo**

Lord, is it I?

O WALY WALY

*Eric Baird, soloist*

“Lord, is it I?” your followers cried, when at the table by your side, you said betrayal sat nearby, and they asked, “Lord, is it I?”

We too, good Lord, have played the fool, denied your love, refused your rule, betrayed your trust, dismissed your grace –You gave Your life and took our place.

### **The Arrest**

#### Matthew 26:47-51

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemene, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” Peter, James and John went with him, and heard him praying: “Father, if it’s possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not what I want but what you want.”

He came back and awoke his disciples –for they had all fallen asleep. “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest. Come,

the hour is at hand,” he said. “The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. See, my betrayer has arrived.”

And even as Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, appeared --and with him a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They’d been sent by the leading priests and elders of the people.

The traitor, Judas, had given them a prearranged signal: “You will know which one to arrest when I greet him with a kiss.”

So Judas came straight to Jesus. “Greetings, Rabbi!” he exclaimed and gave him the kiss. Jesus said, “My friend, go ahead and do what you have come for.”

Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him. But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest’s slave, slashing off his ear.

Amid the Chaos

Bartholomew

Rev. Dan Hutchinson

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## **The Interrogation at Caiaphas’ house**

Matthew 26:57-59

Then the people who had arrested Jesus led him to the home of Caiaphas, the high priest, where the teachers of religious law and the elders had gathered. Meanwhile, Peter followed him at a distance and came to the high priest’s courtyard. He went in and sat with the guards and waited to see how it would all end.

Inside, the leading priests and the entire high council were trying to find witnesses who would lie about Jesus, so they could put him to death.

## **Caiaphas' Courtyard**

Matthew 26:69-75

Meanwhile, Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard.

A servant girl came over and said to him, "You were one of those with Jesus the Galilean." But Peter denied it in front of everyone. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

Later, out by the gate, another servant girl noticed him and said to those standing around, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

Again Peter denied it, this time with an oath. "I don't even know the man," he said.

A little later some of the other bystanders came over to Peter and said, "You must be one of them; we can tell by your Galilean accent." Peter swore, "A curse on me if I'm lying—I don't know the man!" And immediately the rooster crowed.

Suddenly, Jesus' words flashed through Peter's mind: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me." And he went away, weeping bitterly.

Servant Girl in the Courtyard

Jesse Swan

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## Our Courtyards?

Over and over again we sit in our courtyards, our mouths speak what our hearts are full of...

“WE DO NOT KNOW HIM —DO-NOT DO-NOT DO-NOT  
KNOW-HIM KNOW-HIM KNOW-HIM!!”

echoes loudly, emphatically,  
filling time and space, heaven and earth;

and yet the saddest part is when the cock crows we don't have  
the ears to hear —TO-HEAR. TO-HEAR. TO-HEAR.

**At least Peter had the ears to hear --and the heart to weep.**

(Ann Weems)

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## Judas' Darkness

Matthew 27:1-6

Very early in the morning the leading priests and the elders of the people met again to lay plans for putting Jesus to death. Then they bound him, led him away, and took him to Pilate, the Roman governor.

When Judas, who had betrayed him, realized that Jesus had been condemned to die, he was filled with remorse. So he took the thirty pieces of silver back to the leading priests and the elders.

**Judas:** I've made a terrible mistake. I've betrayed an innocent man. I don't want this money. I don't know what to do.

“What do we care?” they retorted. “That's your problem.”

Then Judas threw the silver coins down in the Temple and went out and hanged himself.

## **The Darkness**

Jesus. As the prophets wrote: It was our weakness He carried; it was our corruption that weighed him down. We thought God had punished him --but he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins.

All we like sheep have strayed away. We have all turned to our own way. And the Lord laid upon Him the sins of us all. He laid upon Him the sins of us all. He laid upon Him the sins of us all.

## **The Anthem**     Gethsemane Hymn     Keith Getty and Stuart Townend *Jaclyn Metcalf and Taylor Conley, soloists*

To see the King of heaven fall in anguish to His knees, the Light and Hope of all the world now overwhelmed with grief. What nameless horrors must He see to cry out in the garden: "O take this cup away from me, yet not my will but yours." To know each friend will fall away and heaven's voice be still; for hell to have its vengeful day upon Golgotha's hill. No words describe the Savior's plight to be by God forsaken till wrath and love are satisfied and every sin is paid. What took Him to this wretched place, what kept Him on this road? His love for Adam's fallen race, for every broken soul. No sin too slight to overlook, no crime too great to carry, all mingled in this poisoned cup, and yet He drank it all, the Savior drank it all. This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us; took the blame, bore the shame; we stand forgiven at the cross.

## **The Prayer and Benediction**

◆ *Please stand*

*Worshippers are asked to leave the sanctuary in silence, pondering this love, "so amazing, so divine, that it demands our life, our soul, our all."*

## ***Leading in Worship:***

*Narrator: Judith Land*

*Spotlight: B.J. Dollahon*

*Sound and Lights: Mike Vickery*

*Acolytes: Kate and Ellie Swan*

*Soloists: Eric Baird*

*Taylor Conley*

*Jaclyn Metcalf*

*Organist: Ron Pearson*

### Homilists:

Rev. James Estes

Rev. Daniel Hutchinson

Julia Metcalf

Jonathan Miller

Rev. Wambugu Gachungi

Rev. Wally Johnson

Dr. Jim Miller

Jesse Swan

### **Worship Services**

**April 2 – April 3**

**Good Friday**, noon, sanctuary

The Seven Words of Jesus from the cross (Live, and live-streamed)

**Easter Sunday**,

6:30 a.m., Sunrise at Camp Loughridge in the amphitheater

8:30 and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary, virtually identical services

11:00 a.m., Great Hall, Tulsa International Fellowship

No 5:00 p.m. afternoon Vespers

**First Church's Holy Week Prayer Vigil** (April 1-4): Sign up to pray:

thirty-minute segments from 9:00 p.m. Thursday to Easter

Sunday. Register at [firstchurchtulsa.org/prayervigil2021](http://firstchurchtulsa.org/prayervigil2021).