

# Banning United Methodist Church

Maundy Thursday  
April 6, 2023

## GATHERING MUSIC

Maxine Hoth

## MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

Dan Mabey

*With the Passover table set, Jesus humbles Himself as a servant—even though betrayal and denial are close at hand. Watch and pray, that you may be found faithful during the time of trial.*

## PRELUDE

"Just As I Am Without One Plea"

Maxine Hoth

## WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Doug

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Mabey

We gather with the dirt of the day on our hands, our feet, and our hearts.

**We come in need of a Savior.**

We gather with the disciples, preparing to come to the table, yet surprised once again by Jesus.

**We come with our expectations only to be astonished by love.**

We gather at the basin to be washed and at the table to be fed, in body and in spirit.

**We come to receive a new commandment.**

We gather in awe of the grace demonstrated in Jesus kneeling to serve.

**We come seeking the grace to love one another as Christ loves us. Amen.**

## †OPENING HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

Hymn #127

## OPENING PRAYER

Dan Mabey

**Merciful Savior, We have traveled this long, dusty Lenten journey. Our feet are tired, dirty, aching, and calloused. You have shown us Your love by becoming a humble servant. Humble us when we try to travel without You. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. Humble us when we believe some work is below us. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. Humble us when we are too proud to accept help, or care, or love. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. Humble us when we do not fully receive the gift of Your amazing and bountiful grace. As Christ has washed us, so let us wash one another. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 12:1- 14 NRSV

Dan Mabey

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

†**GOSPEL READING** John 13:1-17, 31b-35 NRSV

Pastor Doug

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON TITLE** "Servant Leader"

Pastor Doug

**GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)**

Dan Mabey

**OFFERTORY** "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Maxine Hoth

†**DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Dan Mabey

**Loving God, help us to love as You love. Jesus explained it; then, He acted it by washing the disciples' feet. He did what others thought was beneath them, which made the lesson even more convicting. May we, as Your church, show Your love to one another and our neighbors through visible acts of mercy. May we be willing to plunge our hands into dirty water where we find it, not for our own affirmation but so those we serve may see Jesus. Help us to discover joy in giving our time and money. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, Who came not to be served but to serve. Amen.**

### **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning, You swept over the face of the waters and poured out Your love over the formless void, ordering creation to bring forth life. You formed us in Your image and provided for us from the fruit of creation. Even when we turned away and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast, sustaining us and giving us life. When we were thirsty, You brought water from a rock, When we were hungry, You fed us manna from heaven. When we questioned Your provision, You gave us grapes as evidence of the promised land. And so,

with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your Name and join their unending hymn: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the ONE Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are You, and blessed is Your Son, Jesus Christ. When we turned aside from Your way and abused Your gifts, You gave us in Him your crowning gift. Divine Love poured out in human form, Christ fed the hungry, healed the sick, ate with the scorned and forgotten, and taught us how to love through his actions. By the baptism of His suffering, death, and resurrection, You gave birth to Your church, delivered us from enslavement to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the evening in which He gave Himself up for us, Jesus rose from the supper table, took a pitcher of water, poured it into a basin, knelt down, and began to wash the disciples' feet.

When he was finished, He sat down and spoke with the disciples. He said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

That same night, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

And so, in remembrance of these our 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, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

As Christ, Divine Love poured out for us, came to show us how to love one another, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood and called to love one another as Christ loves us. By Your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at His heavenly banquet. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

†**CLOSING HYMN**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Hymn #139

†**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Doug

**DEPART IN SILENCE**