

BANNING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HOLY THURSDAY
APRIL 2, 2026

GATHERING

Special Music and Fellowship Cathy Mauge

Passing of the Peace Pastor Ode

WORSHIP OF GOD

Prelude Cathy Mauge

Lighting of the Altar Candles

†**Call to Worship** Marilyn Casey

L: Come, you with dirty feet, aching backs, and weary souls.

P: We come bearing a heavy load of worry, frustration, and isolation.

L: Come, you who are hungry, thirsty, longing to meet the one who will feed you, body and soul.

P: We come with emptiness in our stomachs and our hearts, desperate to be filled.

L: Come to meet Jesus who kneels to wash our dirt and grime, who feeds us with bread and with love that never ends.

P: We come to receive the balm for our anxiety, the provision for our hunger, the antidote for our loneliness.

L: Come to receive a new commandment: love one another as Christ has loved you.

P: We come to embrace this new commandment so that everyone will know we are disciples of Jesus Christ, God Incarnate who came to live and love among us. Amen.

†**Opening Hymn** “Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast” UMH #339

†**Opening Prayer** Marilyn Casey

Lord God,

On this sacred day, we remember Jesus’ love in the Last Supper and His example of humble service. Open our hearts to receive Your grace and to follow Christ with faith and compassion. Bless our gathering and guide us through these holy days. Amen.

New Testament Reading - 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 NRSV Pastor Ode

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “Proclaiming the Lord’s death until He comes” Pastor Ode

Holy Thursday Last Supper
Memorialization of Hand-Washing

Invitation to Holy Thursday Last Supper:

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.

Beloved in Christ, On this holy day, we gather at the table where Jesus gathered with His friends. Here, in the breaking of bread and the sharing of the cup, we remember the love that kneels to serve, the grace that stoops to wash, and the mercy that gives itself completely for the world.

Tonight we step into the story again— the story of a Savior who takes a towel, who offers a meal, who gives a new commandment: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

All who seek to walk in the way of Christ are welcome at this table. Come with your weariness, your hope, your longing, your questions. Come to remember, to be renewed, and to be sent out in love.

Come, for the table is prepared. Come, for Christ invites us to the feast of grace.

Communion Hymn “Let us Break Bread Together” Hymn #618

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn “Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?” UMH #288

Dismissal with Blessing

Benediction Pastor Ode

Carrying the Light of Christ out into the World

Postlude Cathy Mauge