



Order of Worship
Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021

We Gather in God's Name

GATHERING MUSIC

Sarabande from Cello Suite No. 3

J. S. Bach

Julia Gaines, cello

Jesus Paid It All

John T. Grape

Julia Gaines, cello

Sarabande from Cello Suite No. 2

J. S. Bach

Julia Gaines, cello

PRELUDE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Hans Leo Hassler

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *

Do you remember your last supper before the pandemic?

The last meal you had out at a restaurant with friends?

The last meal before fear and anxiety ran the conversation?

If you had known it was your last, would you have lingered?

Would you have ordered dessert?

Would you have held your friends' hands and told them how much you loved them?

If you had known, would you have washed their feet?

Tonight we gather together, because this night was the beginning of the end.

This night was Jesus' last supper with his disciples.

Take a moment to imagine how Jesus must have felt.

Pause for silence.

Tonight we will hear, again and again, of a love that knows no bounds.

May we be fully present here. May we worship holy God.

HYMN 223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

We Receive God's Grace

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *

Holy God who holds us together,
If I were to place myself at your table, I would probably be Peter—
Misunderstanding your radical hospitality,
Sticking to the rules,
Arguing what I do and don't deserve.
Then again, it's possible that I'd be Judas—
The one who betrayed you,
The one who failed to see the good right in front of him,
The one who might have thought he wasn't worthy of your love.
If I were to place myself at your table,
It's possible I would be one of the unnamed disciples—
Watching, but not speaking,
Silently missing the opportunity
To tell you what I believe and how much I love you.
If I were to place myself at your table,
I am confident that I would have made the same mistakes
Your well-intentioned disciples made.
There is no surprise there.
What is surprising is that I know you would have washed my feet nonetheless.
So forgive me, God.
Wash not just my feet, but my hands and my head also. Amen.

Hymn 698

Take O Take Me As I Am

TAKE ME AS I AM

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM

The Crucifixion
Krista Firkus

Samuel Barber

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

MEDITATION

An Example

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love is This

WONDROUS LOVE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *

We are each a tapestry of stories.
We are our stories of fear and grief,
As well as our stories of love and joy.
We believe that God sees all of these interwoven truths
And says to our fragile selves:
"Come in.
Come in from the cold,
Come in from the rain,
Come in from wherever you are,
And be here tonight."
We believe that God then pours warm water into a basin
To wash off the weariness of the day,
The bruises of the past,
And the doubt that clings to us.
We believe that this act is an act of love.
Similarly, we believe that God says to us: "Eat."
And God shares of God's self,

And it is food not only for our bodies, but for our souls.
We believe that all this happens
Every time we close our eyes and imagine God,
And every time we close our eyes and imagine God,
We believe the parts of our tapestry that feel worn and frayed
Are held together.
So tonight, we remember. Tonight we say thank you.
Today, we know—we are held together.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

SOLO

Were You There?
Krista Firkus

Bearing and Following the Word Into the World

STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

BELL TOLL

We invite you to exit in silence. As you exit you will be given a piece of cloth and a bottle of water. You may do personal meditation at the cross, washing your hands and drying with the cloth. You may tie your cloth to the cross.

* All adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

We welcome to our Maundy Thursday service Julia Gaines, cellist. Julia is from Oxford, GA, and is a junior in high school. Julia has been playing the cello for six years and is planning to study Cello Performance in college. Thank you, Julia, for your beautiful playing this evening.

