



## Central Presbyterian Church

Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Thursday, April 17, 2014

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**6:00 P.M.**



**DAVE:** "In the name of Christ, welcome to this meal and this worship. Let us pray together."

**ALL:** "Gracious God, at this solemn time we pray that you will bless this food and bless us in your service. Make us more aware of your presence in our lives and the many ways you bless us. Make us more aware of those who will not eat well this evening. Help us, in Christ's name and in his service, to be faithful followers. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

### **A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** "God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power."

**WOMEN:** "Too often we live as though we are own gods, ignoring your presence and your peace"

**MEN:** "Too often we miss needs that are causing others pain."

**KIDS:** "Too often we don't understand that you love all you children."

**DAVE:** "Forgive us, Lord."

**KIDS:** "Open our eyes to your miracles of love and friendship and peace."

**MEN:** "Open our eyes to see Christ in our neighbors, in people and places we don't expect him, in ways that surprise us."

**WOMEN:** "Help us do more to show your love and tell your Good News."

**DAVE:** "Help it happen, Lord."

**MEN:** "Be present with us this evening as we share your bread and your cup."

**KIDS:** "Be present with us this weekend as we give thanks for the joys of Easter."

**WOMEN:** "Be present with us as gather at your Table."

**ALL:** "Be with us as we go out into your world. Amen"

**DAVE:** "Come, receive the tender service Christ offers each of us. Come to receive the challenge of the new commandment: 'Love one another.'"

**MEN:** "Come and contemplate the many temptations of a world that can seduce us, like Judas was, to betray the trust of a faithful God."

**WOMEN:** "We come to travel with Jesus on the way of the Cross, so that our "ALLELUIA" on Easter morning will have a new meaning."

**ALL:** "As we worship together and gather at his table, let us reflect upon the life of Christ, so we can see again what being his disciple can cost us and what it may bring us."

## **HYMN**

### **Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land.  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me.  
And from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:  
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face.  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss.  
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

**ONE:** "The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth: 'Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves.'"

**ALL:** If we judged ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we receive discipline so that we may not be condemned along with the world. With confidence in God's abundant mercy, let us examine ourselves and confess our sin.

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison):**

"Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others.

We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace."

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**ONE:** "After Jesus had washed the disciples' feet, he said to them,"

**ALL:** "'Do you know what I have done to you? 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.'"

**ONE:** "Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven."

**ALL:** "Thanks be to God!"

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

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.

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."

## **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE .**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

### **HYMN**

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

### **BENEDICTION**

### **DEPART IN SILENCE**

