



FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

An Open & Affirming Congregation



Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021

7:30pm

Online

WELCOME

We are honored that you have chosen to spend your Sunday morning with us.

Friends Congregational Church is an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of our church—people of all ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is the day in Holy Week when the church remembers the last night Jesus shared with his disciples before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion. 'Maundy' is derived from the Latin of Jesus' words in John 13:34 when he gives his disciples a "new commandment" (mandatum novum) to love one another.

Words in **BOLD** are yours to speak out loud

Quote for Meditation:

"Jesus calls us to continue his mission of revealing the perfect love of God in this world. He calls us to total self-giving. He does not want us to keep anything for ourselves. Rather, he wants our love to be as full, as radical, and as complete as his own. He wants us to bend ourselves to the ground and touch the places in each other that most need washing. He also wants us to say to each other, 'Eat of me and drink of me.' By this complete mutual nurturing, he wants us to become one body and one spirit, united by the love of God." –Clarence Jordan

WORDS OF WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Dan De Leon

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Brooke Dooley

One: This is an evening to remember.

All: We remember the Passover Jesus shared with his disciples.

One: We remember the new covenant of broken bread and cup.

All: We remember his night praying while others slept.

One: We remember the arrest and trial, the betrayal and denial.

All: We remember his loneliness.

One: This we do in remembrance of Jesus.

This we remember, and it changes what we do.

All: We are faithful to this story; we do not let it pass.

OPENING HYMN — What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; To God and to the
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And when from death I'm

this! that Christ should come in bliss to bear the heav-y cross for my
Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!
sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

LISTENING FOR GOD IN THE STORIES OF OUR TRADITION

Recalling the Passover

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Exodus 12:1-14 (NRSV)

Cameron Rollwitz

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.

A New Commandment from Jesus: Servant Leadership

Gospel Reading: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (CEB)

Doris Machinski

Before the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully.

Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and was returning to God. So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing. When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus replied, "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."

"No!" Peter said. "You will never wash my feet!"

Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't have a place with me."

Simon Peter said, "Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!"

Jesus responded, "Those who have bathed need only to have their feet washed, because they are completely clean. You disciples are clean, but not every one of you." He knew who would betray him. That's why he said, "Not every one of you is clean."

After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them.

Community and Communion: God in Our Midst

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NRSV)

Elizabeth Vasquez

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.

A MAUNDY THURSDAY REFLECTION

Dan De Leon

PREPARING FOR COMMUNION AND THE ACT OF FOOT-WASHING

Dan De Leon

From "A Maundy Thursday Peace and Justice Litany" by Britney Winn Lee

One: The body of Christ is broken that we and this world may be made whole.

All: Thank you for the bread that you share at your open table.

*One: The cup of the new covenant, poured out as a promise
that anything oppressive, violent, evil, fear-driven, or dead
is not yet finished.*

All: Thank you for the wine that you share at your open table.

*One: The basin of water—
the same water that parted for your people who were enslaved,
that calmed at your command, that envelops us in baptism,
that sustains us every day. Let it symbolize your invitation to us
to be wildly loved and to wildly love our neighbors.*

All: Thank you for the water that connects us here at your open table.

THE ACT OF HAND- AND/OR FOOT-WASHING

Trent Williams

THE OBSERVANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Dan De Leon

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dan De Leon

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN (from the Mennonite songbook, *Sing the Story*) – Thank You for the Night

Thank you for the night, the sign that day is
Thank you for the quiet as si - lence scat - ters
Thank you for the dark to com - pli - ment the
Thank you for the word, which dark - ness can't con -
Thank you for the night, a mea - sure of your

done, that life is meant to
sound, while God, in both, is
light, as in - sight, o - pen -
tain, that life, laid down, is
care. In dark - ness, as in

rest and sleep to come.
wait - ing to be found.
eyed, re - plac - es sight.
raised to life a - gain.
light, you, Lord, are there.

THE STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

BENEDICTION

Trent Williams

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Instrumental Music:

Prelude: "Gethsemane" written and arranged by Sally DeFord

*Gathering of
Foot- and/or
Hand-Washing*

Elements: "My Jesus, I Love Thee" by AJ Gordon, arranged by Greg Howlett

Communion: "Lamb of God" by Twila Paris, arranged by Mark Hayes

*Stripping of
Sanctuary:* "Were You There?" Traditional Spiritual, arranged by Moses Hogan

FIRST TIME AT FRIENDS? If you are visiting us today, please let us know. You will find an Online Visitor Card at <https://www.friends-ucc.org/your-first-visit>. We are so glad you are here, so please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

FRIDAY NOONDAY CHECK-IN & PRAYER TIME CANCELLED: The Noonday Check-in & Prayer Time will *not* be offered on Good Friday. Instead, join us in-person at Friends Church at **noon on Good Friday, April 2**, for a brief outdoor service (weather-permitting), followed by a walk-through of **Mary Button's "Pandemic Hope" Stations of the Cross** in the sanctuary, available to view until 3pm; AND catch the virtual **Good Friday Cantata at 7:30pm**, offered by our chancel choir and musicians, and conducted (and edited) by Director of Music Ministries Chris Hoffman.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS OUTDOOR SERVICE, 12pm Friday, April 2: Please join us in-person at Friends Church at noon on Good Friday, April 2, for a brief outdoor service (weather-permitting), followed by a walk-through of Mary Button's "Pandemic Hope" Stations of the Cross in the sanctuary, available to view until 3pm

GOOD FRIDAY CANTATA, 7:30pm Friday, April 2: Please join us online for this year's Good Friday Cantata. On April 2, 7:30 pm, the Friends Choir will be performing Hal Hopson's "Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness." The usual individual video screens of each singer singing from their home will be combined to create the virtual choir that you have heard this past year, and will be joined by organ, oboe, percussion, and readings from members of our church family. We hope you will join us.

OUTDOOR EASTER SERVICES, 9am & 11am, Sunday, April 4: On Easter Sunday, April 4, Friends Church offers two services at 9am and 11am. We are keeping an eye on the weather and hoping the rain will hold off for us to enjoy in-person services in front of the church building. Following the 11am service, there will be an egg hunt for children. Physical distancing and masks are required. Note: While our Easter celebration will be streamed live to bring our online congregation into fellowship with us, a pre-recorded Easter service will not be offered. Spread the word, bring your loved ones, and celebrate the Day of Resurrection at Friends Church or online Easter Sunday morning.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER KITS: On March 27th, Friends Church volunteers delivered Holy Week & Easter kits to each local household in our church family. If you did not receive your kit, please let us know: worship@friends-ucc.org. Your kit includes coloring pages and crafts to assemble for Holy Week; a copy of the third installment of Friends Church's new quarterly, "The Epistle;" a homemade bookmark; a purple votive candle holder and palm branch cross to make your own at-home worship space; a booklet of devotionals for each day in Holy Week; communion kits; and some fun recipes for an Easter brunch. These special kits are for our church family to be united wherever we are in our observance of Holy Week and our celebration of Easter Sunday.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES AT FRIENDS CHURCH: As long as the Friends Church Decision Meter remains on “orange” or better, outdoor services will be offered on the first and third Sundays of the month, including Easter Sunday, April 4! For Easter, two services will be offered at 9am and 11am. After that, outdoor services will be offered at 11am only.

FRIENDS BOOK CLUB, Thursday, April 29, 6:30pm: The next Friends Book Club is *Thursday, April 29, at 6:30pm* by Zoom. Rev. Ron Petty will lead us in discussing the book, *Rabbi Jesus*, by Bruce Chilton. Please join us for a fun and informative discussion.

SOUL FRIENDS SMALL GROUPS: A new semester of Soul Friends small groups has launched. We have several options for deepening connection and spiritual growth, and we hope you'll take advantage of them. Sign-ups are available *here* (<https://bit.ly/3pBVFmQ>) for our ongoing small groups. Contact Pastor Trent or Jodie Robinson, Spiritual Life chair, with any questions.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CLASS, 10:00AM SUNDAY: The Social Justice Class at Friends Church has concluded its special study and will resume meeting at the regular time of 10am. For more information, please contact Jackie (jackiejowomack@gmail.com).

MORNING MANNA 10AM SUNDAY: Join us for our adult Bible study on Sunday morning at 10:00am on Zoom, Please follow the link, below. We will gather to reconnect, check in with each other, and bring ideas for what we'll study over the coming weeks. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Trent. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82444908275?pwd=VUxnK0tYV2EzRzJhYkkveFo3NFFDdz09>.

CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE (ChMS): Need a Friends Church online directory? Download the free Church Office Online app and contact the Church office for the domain name and password. It's an easy way to have quick access to the names and contact info for Friends Church people, as well as birthdays and anniversaries! Don't see your info in the online directory? Give us your updated information: office@friends-ucc.org.

FRIENDS CHURCH CARES FUND (FCCF): Friends Church recently received a donation of \$10,000 for the purpose of helping those suffering financial hardships resulting from COVID-19 measures. Friends Church members needing financial assistance are encouraged to request one-time assistance for up to \$1,500 from the FCCF. The FCCF request form can be found on the church's website (www.friends-ucc.org) or by contacting Church Council Vice Moderator Cathy Hansen at vice-moderator@friends-ucc.org. Requests are kept in discretion between the requester and the Vice Moderator, Treasurer, and Senior Pastor.

FRIENDS CHURCH CRISIS FUND: While the FCCF is set aside exclusively to assist with COVID-19-related hardships, the Crisis Fund, established several years ago, is designated to help Friends Church members in financial need for any reason. Should the FCCF run out, our congregation has this fund to further help one another. To contribute to the Crisis Fund, contact Treasurer Theresa Walker at treasurer@friends-ucc.org. To request Crisis Fund assistance, contact the pastors at pastor@friends-ucc.org or pastortrent@friends-ucc.org. Requests remain confidential between the requester and members of Church Council.

STAY CONNECTED WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FRIENDS!: Subscribe to This Week at Friends published every Friday to your email address, and the E-Connection Newsletter published monthly to your email address. You can sign up on our website: www.friends-ucc.org or email the church office: office@friends-ucc.org. Please add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION: If you are not currently receiving Church email correspondence, and would like to, please send a message to the Church office with your name and email address: office@friends-ucc.org, and add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Vision:

Rooted in the way of Christ, we strive to be a community of God's radical inclusion and extravagant welcome.

Our Mission:

United by the example of Jesus, we live faithfully, love limitlessly, and serve boldly.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Online at 11:00am

FRIENDS CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Dan De Leon, *Senior Pastor*
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