

MAUNDY THURSDAY



NEW ST PETER'S

APRIL 2, 2026

*The Liturgy of the Last Supper
& the Crucifixion*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Congregants read the bolded text aloud.

STRIKING OF
THE HOUR

Silence

CALL TO
WORSHIP
Hebrews 10

THE SON IS PREPARED

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, He said, **“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have You prepared for Me.”**

Matthew 26

Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to Him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at table. And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, **“Why this waste? For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.”** But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to Me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have Me. In pouring this ointment on My body, she has done it to prepare Me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

CONFESSION
OF SIN
Hebrews 12

Holy Father, hear the prayers of us, Your children. **Our sin clings closely, weighing us down and entangling us in its burden and deception. We often grow weary and fainthearted in the fight, and we give in far too easily. And even though You discipline us in love, we resist Your care and disregard Your correction. We have not always sought peace, and we are quick to nurture the roots of bitterness in our hearts. You have called us to holiness, but we prefer our own ways. Lift our drooping hands, strengthen our weak knees, and make straight paths for our feet—in Christ’s name, amen.**

Worshippers may continue to confess their sins in silence.

Brothers and sisters, we now have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **So let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works as we see the Day drawing near.**

To all who rejoice in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, the table that we serve is for you. All others, if the life of Jesus is not your righteousness, if the death of Jesus is not your forgiveness, if the resurrection of Jesus is not your hope, then we respectfully request that you refrain and consider.

THE SON IS READY

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. **For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.**

When it was evening, He reclined at table with the twelve. Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples.

Receive the bread as it is distributed, then please wait to eat together.

And Christ said, **“Take, eat; this is My body.”**

Eat together

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, **“I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.”**

Receive the cup as it is distributed, then please wait to drink together. Grape juice is in the outer ring of the tray and wine in the center.

And He said, **“Drink of it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”**

Drink together

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Hebrews 10

WELCOME AND WARNING

LITURGY OF THE TABLE
Hebrews 10
Matthew 26

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

Matt Merker
text: v. 1-2 Ada Habershon, 1906
vs. 3 Matt Merker, 2013



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in His ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold Through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast.



For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

Refrain



He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast; For my Sav - ior loves me



so, He will hold me fast.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

*Worshipers may quietly follow into the sanctuary.
Take a seat, and prayerfully wait.*

THE SON OBEYS HIS FATHER

In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence. **Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered.** And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 5

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to His disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, He began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me." And going a little farther He fell on His face and prayed, saying, "**My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.**"

Matthew 26

Silence

THE SON IS BETRAYED

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, "**Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.**"

Hebrews 6

While He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "**The one I will kiss is the man; seize Him.**" And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed Him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him. At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture Me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples left Him and fled.

Matthew 26

Silence

THE SON IS DENIED

Hebrews 6 For when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by Himself.

Matthew 26 Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before them all, saying, "**I do not know what you mean.**" And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." And again he denied it with an oath: "**I do not know the man.**" After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "**I do not know the man.**" And immediately the rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Silence

THE SON SUFFERS

Hebrews 13 So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. **Therefore let us go to Him outside the camp and bear the reproach He endured.**

Matthew 27 So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "**His blood be on us and on our children!**" Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered Him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying, "**Hail, King of the Jews!**" And they spit on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the robe

and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him. As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry His cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when He tasted it, He would not drink it.

Silence

THE SON IS CRUCIFIED AND DIES

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9

And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over Him there. And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read, **“This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”**

Matthew 27

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken Me?” And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, **“This man is calling Elijah.”** And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. But the others said, **“Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.”** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

Silence

“Hast Thou Heard Him, Seen Him, Known Him?”

Joel Littlepage, 2010
text: Ora Rowan, 1834-1879



1. Hast thou heard Him, seen Him, known Him? Is not thine a__ cap - tured
2. What can strip the seem - ing beau - ty__ from the i - dols of the
3. 'Tis the look that melt - ed Pe - ter,__ 'tis that face that Ste - phen



heart? Chief a - mong ten thou - sand own__ Him; joy - ful choose the bet - ter part.
earth? Not a sense of right or du - ty, but the sight of peer-less worth.
saw, 'tis that heart that wept with Mar - y,__ can a - lone from i - dols draw:

Refrain



Cap - ti - vat - ed by His beau - ty,__ wor - thy tri - bute haste to bring; Let His



peer - less worth con - strain thee,____ crown Him now un - ri - valed King.

HOMILY

Rev. Stephen Buerger

“The Son, the Substance”

“Draw Near (Psalm 69)”

Wendell Kimbrough, 2017



1. The flood a - round me is ris - sing; the wa - ter's up to my neck.
2. My flesh and blood no more own_ me; my fam - 'ily's no more my home.
3. I asked them all for some com - fort; I begged, but there was no bread.



My voice is worn out from cry - ing. O Lord, please send me your help!
They hide their eyes from my griev - ing; they stop their ears from my groans.
They gave me food that was poi - son; with wine, they left me for dead.

Refrain



Draw near___ to my soul,___ O___ Lord!___



Draw near___ to my soul,___ O___ Lord!___

THE SON IS BURIED

Hebrews 9

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.

Matthew 27

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. **He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.** Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

Silence

THE APOSTLES'
CREED

Christians, on this day of darkness and mourning, what is it that you believe?

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
He descended into hell...**

All leave in silence

ABOUT THE COVER

This evening, the familiar NSP rooster is pictured without the cross in its talons. This for us is a stark reminder that we must remember our own denial in order to feel more sharply our need of the Christ-occupied cross. Before the dawn of strong hope and good news comes the darkness of betrayal and crucifixion.

WHAT IS MAUNDY THURSDAY?

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday of Holy Week, the night of the Last Supper and the institution of the Lord's Supper. After washing the feet of the disciples, Jesus commanded (*mandatum* or *Maundy*) that they serve one another in love as He had done for them (John 13.12-17). Maundy Thursday is a celebration of the Lord's persistent, suffering, redeeming love in service to us.

In this service we are liturgically re-enacting the experience of the twelve and the first followers. On Thursday night the disciples were together with Christ in the upper room. By Friday they were scattered and afraid. Tonight we, being some of His disciples, are together. Tomorrow we are scattered, fasting and struggling with the cross as we await the surprise of the Resurrection.

READINGS FOR THE SCATTERED

FRIDAY: THE SUFFERING OF THE MESSIAH

Matthew 27
Lamentations 3.1-36
Psalm 22

SATURDAY: CRYING OUT IN HOPE

Matthew 27.57-66
Lamentations 3.37-58
Psalm 88

SUNDAY: REJOICING IN THE RESURRECTION

Matthew 28
Exodus 15
Psalm 145

Please join us for worship at Dallas Children's Theater on Sunday at 10:15 a.m.

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