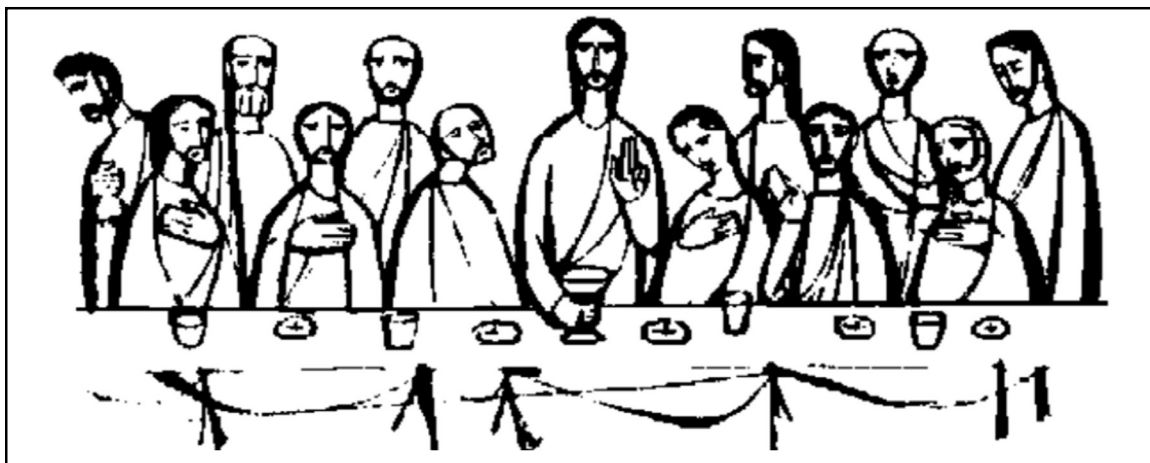


MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28, 2024 - 6:00pm



Maundy comes from the Latin *mandatum*, the first word of the phrase “Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis” (“A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another” John 13:34). Tonight we take part in the Last Supper, the final evening before Jesus is killed. After this meal, Jesus will be betrayed by Judas, arrested, and put on trial by religious leaders. Remember God’s faithfulness as we celebrate the Lord’s Supper together.

PART I: INVITATION

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

Leader: Jesus said, "Just as I have loved you, love one another."
My friends, be filled with the love of Christ!

People: The love of Christ flows through us and around us.

Leader: We come to remember and to give thanks.

People: The love of Christ flows through us and around us.

Leader: We gather at this table to be fed by God's Spirit, to be filled with Christ's amazing love!

HYMN

We Come As Guests Invited

WIE LIEBLICH



1. We come as guests in - vit - ed when Je - sus bids us dine, his
2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing from Christ the grace we need, and
3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, one sin - gle fruit - ful vine, our



friends on earth u - nit - ed to share the bread and wine; the
in our hearts be - liev - ing on him by faith we feed; with
fel - low - ship de - clar - ing re - newed in bread and wine: re -



bread of life is bro - ken, the wine is free - ly poured for
won - der and thanks - giv - ing for love that knows no end, we
newed, sus - tained, and giv - en by to - ken, sign, and word, the



us, in sol - emn to - ken of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
find in Je - sus liv - ing our ev - er - pres - ent friend.
pledge and seal of heav - en, the love of Christ our Lord.

REMEMBERING THE STORY

Mark 14:12-21

Rev. Steve Armfield

¹² On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴ Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶ The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷ When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸ While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

²⁰ "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

PRAYER

Ever gracious God, we gather this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks of a bitter and broken world. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us in the breaking of the bread of our need and of your sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to you in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. As the night advances, deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us in Jesus Christ, our friend and redeemer. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

I John 4:7, 11-12

Rev. Bell Olsson

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES

REMEMBERING THE PEOPLE OF FAITH

As we light candles, you are invited to share the name of someone in your life who has helped you live a loving and serving life.

PART II: DINNER & CONVERSATION

PRAYER BLESSING OUR MEAL

Rev. Armfield

God of love, as we prepare to remember the events of this night, open our eyes to see the beauty of Jesus' self-giving love, and by your Spirit work in us gathered here a desire and commitment to serve each other and our hurting world. We thank you for this meal. May we eat with joy, remembering your faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL AROUND THE TABLE

PART III: SHARING COMMUNION AROUND THE TABLE

THE STORY CONTINUES

Mark 14:22-25

Rev. Bell Olsson

²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

²³ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

²⁴ "This is my blood of the[a] covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

²⁵ "Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rev. Armfield

Feel free to say to your neighbor as you serve communion, "This is a sign of God's love for you."

PRAYER

In gratitude for this moment, this meal, and these people, we give ourselves to you. Send us from this table to live as changed people because we have broken this bread and shared this cup and we cannot remain the same. Amen.

THE STORY CONTINUES

Mark 14:32-42

Rev. Armfield

³² They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. ³⁴ "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

³⁵ Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ "Abba,[a] Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

³⁷ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour?" ³⁸ Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

³⁹ Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. ⁴⁰ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

⁴¹ Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴² Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

HYMN

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows the first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

5
Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The image shows the second system of musical notation for the hymn, starting with a measure rest labeled '5'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Music: Jacques Berthier © 1979, Les presses de Taizé, GIA Publ., Inc. used by permission One License #729334-A

QUIET REFLECTION

BLESSING

Rev. Bell Olsson

Jesus said, "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."

Go in peace, then, loving one another and loving the world that God so loved.

Amen.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Steve Armfield, Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Dr. Julia Brown

LAMENT

A GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

Friday | March 29 | 6pm

Music of Barber, Ferguson, Pergolesi,
Victoria, Hogan, Rutter and more.

Featuring:



Barbara Corbató



Brennen Kartes



Brandon Harris



Scott Bosscher

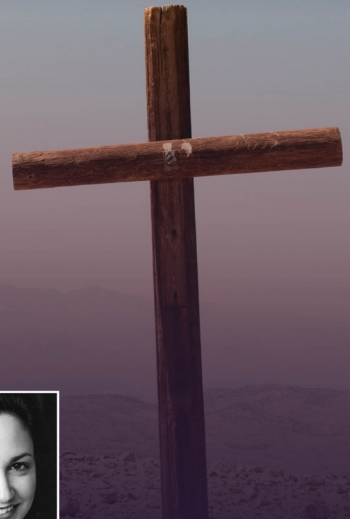


Dr. Julia Brown



Kristi Burghart

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2345 Robinson Road SE, GR, MI 49506
616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org



**PLEASE BRING
FRESH FLOWERS**
to adorn the wooden cross
on **EASTER MORNING!**
This Mayflower tradition
captures the new life that
Easter Sunday brings.

A wooden cross stands on a rocky, arid hillside. The background shows a range of mountains under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the top right of the image.

JOIN US for EASTER

Sunday | March 31 | 10:30am

**“He is not here, for he has risen, as he said.
Come, see the place where he lay.”**

(Matthew 28:6)

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506
616-459-6255 www.MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Steve Armfield | Pastor

Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music and Organist

Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director | Abby Brooks, Director of Children's Choirs

Melia Colwell, Children's Choir Accompanist

Rachael Cooley, Interim Executive Administrator | Murry Idema, Director of Congregational Care

Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager

Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator

Jon Lang, Facility Manager | Jana DeShane, Custodial Services