

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 1, 2021



“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.”

—John 13:31a, 34-35

PRELUDE Postlude for the Office of Compline (Jehan Alain)

Ty Woodward, Organ

WELCOME AND GREETING

Molly Smith

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Christ has prepared a feast of love.

HYMN The Gift of Love

Holly Pitrago and Jack McHugh

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Spencer Dewald and Lindsey Crossan

Children of God, Christ shows us God's love by becoming a humble servant.
Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's Spirit.

Most merciful God, we your church confess that often our spirit has not been that of Christ. Where we have failed to love one another as he loves us, where we have pledged loyalty to him with our lips and then betrayed, deserted, or denied him; forgive us, we pray, and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us, was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Brandon Searfoss

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:3-20, 31-35

Brandon Searfoss
Lauren Foxwell

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN Help Us Accept Each Other

Holly Pitrago and Jack McHugh

REFLECTION Love One Another

Tricia Guerrero

The washing of our feet or hands is a symbolic act of sharing in Christ's servanthood and the command to love one another. To participate, you can prepare with a small bowl of warm water and a towel.

Almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ you taught us to wash one another's feet and to live his love for us with one another. Strengthen and expand our bonds of love and fellowship, that together we may walk the way of the cross that brings eternal life. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

Rev. Patricia Farris

I invite you to take the communion elements you have in your home—a piece of bread or cracker and a cup of water or juice. After I consecrate the elements at the altar table, I invite us all to commune together, receiving the bread and cup which make Christ present and real to us in our bodies, hearts, and souls.

We experience the presence of Christ in our hearts through the grace of God which knows no walls or boundaries, in which there is no distance or separating. We are always truly "one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world!"

HYMN Let Us Be Bread

PASTORAL PRAYER / LORD'S PRAYER

Mia Staraci

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Spencer Dewald and Lindsey Crossan

CLOSING HYMN Jesu, Jesu

Holly Pitrago and Jack McHugh

† Go in peace,

† Go in hope.

In the Christian tradition, Maundy Thursday is the day to imitate Christ as servant, when he shared his last supper with his close friends, the disciples, and then confused them by washing their feet and showing them how to serve one another. We cannot truly serve each other without trust, intimacy, and vulnerability. We also cannot be Christians or people of faith only on our terms. What inhibits us from serving and being served? Pride, fear, mistrust, insecurity. These are powerful instruments that tear at God's love. During Holy Week we are called out of our comfort zone to recognize that Christ modeled the life of sacrifice and service for us to follow.

HOLY WEEK CONTINUES:

April 2: Good Friday: Labyrinth Open for Prayer (In-Person) 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., in Simkins Hall

The Labyrinth will be open during Good Friday. Stop by to walk in meditation and prayer to look within and find peace. While continuing to follow the latest health and safety guidelines, we offer this sacred space as a way of nurturing our faith during these challenging times. (See guidelines on the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/lent.)

APRIL 3: Holy Saturday EASTER HOP-BY (In-Person) Come anytime between 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the First UMC Courtyard

All are welcome to attend our Hop-By Easter event, hosted by First UMC Children and Family Ministries. Walk through stations in the First UMC Courtyard for fun and physically-distanced activities for Easter lovers of all ages. • Featuring crafts bags, a single household family photo, a chalk mural and even a visit from the Easter Bunny. • Drive by to pick up your bag, or park in the church parking lot and walk through the event to fully participate in each activity. *Remember to wear your mask.* • Missions Council will also be hosting a **food drive for the West Side Food Bank**, so bring cans and dry goods to donate. We look forward to seeing you there!

APRIL 4: Easter Sunday 10 a.m. ONLINE Sanctuary Worship

Our celebration of Christ's Resurrection, featuring a vocal sextet from the Chancel Choir, singing two anthems: "The Day of Resurrection," and "To the Lamb on the Throne," with David Searfoss on trumpet. Drive or walk by the church courtyard Easter Sunday morning to see the wooden cross in the courtyard, strewn with flowers in the annual tradition of First UMC. *Cross will be outside until 1 p.m.*

All online events can be found: Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/santamonicaumc/live

First UMC website: www.santamonicaumc.org/livestream **Youtube:** www.youtube.com/c/SantaMonicaUMC

For more information, visit the website: www.santamonicaumc.org/lent

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