



## Maundy Thursday March 28, 2024

**EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**200 North Center Street, P.O. Box 327**  
**Ebensburg, Pennsylvania 15931**

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Mission Statement

“Ebensburg Presbyterians  
are Christians giving help  
and hope to all by sharing God’s love

### GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty God, on the night of his betrayal Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment on our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever . Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively) John 15

Jesus said, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I loved you.

**Greater love has no person than this, that a person lay down his or her life for their friends.”**

Jesus said, ‘You are my friends if you do what I command you.’”

**We journey to Jerusalem and the Upper Room once again to behold the miracle of God’s divine love.**

\*HYMN #376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (in unison)

**God of Mercy, 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.**

**(Moment of Silent Prayer)**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsively)

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

**We are at peace knowing that through Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST (responsively)  
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
(Please share the peace of Christ with those around)

Choir Anthem

### THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires, known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURES

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 12:1-14

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: John 13:1-30

SERMON: "Jesus Knew"

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we thank you for blessing us with the riches of your glory and the depth of your love for us revealed in Jesus, We respond with these gifts and pray that you will bless them and all our efforts to enrich the lives of others through our witness and love. Amen.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

The Affirmation of Faith (Unison) From "A Brief Statement of Faith"

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,**

**eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,**

**Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

\*Hymn #513 Let Us Break Bread Together

### THE TABLE

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Hear the gracious words of our Savior Jesus Christ: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. No one who comes to me will I cast out. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

**GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**LEADER:** The Lord be with you.

**PEOPLE: And also with you.**

**LEADER:** Lift up your hearts.

**PEOPLE: We lift them to the Lord**

**LEADER:** Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**PEOPLE: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth, and create the fruit of the vine. You made us in your image, and freed us from the bonds of slavery. You claimed us as your people, and made covenant to be our God. You fed us manna in the wilderness, and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey.

When we forgot you, and our faith was weak, you spoke through prophets, calling us to turn again to your ways. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to deliver us from the bondage of death and slavery to sin. In humility he descends from your heights, to kneel in obedience to love's commands. He who is boundless takes on the bondage of our sin. He who is free takes our place in death's prison. In the deserts of our wanderings, he sustains us, giving us his body as manna for our weariness. The cup of suffering which he drank has become for us the cup of salvation. In his death, he ransomed us from death's dominion; in his resurrection, he opened the way to eternal life. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen

**LEADER:** Great is the mystery of faith.

**PEOPLE: Christ has died, Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Lead us, O God, by the power of your Spirit to live as love commands. Bound to Christ, set us free for joyful obedience and glad service. As Jesus gave his life for ours, help us to live our lives for others with humility and persistent courage. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours,

almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen

As Christ our Savior has taught us, we are bold to pray: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

### **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS**

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood. May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### **SENDING**

\*HYMN #371 Lift High the Cross

Stripping of the Sanctuary

### **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

As we depart in silence, remember Jesus Christ who bent down low enough to wash dirty feet and gave his disciples a new commandment to love one another. May all glory, honor and dominion be his in this world and in our lives, now and forever. Amen.

Postlude

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**March 28**

**WORSHIP SERVICE** *The service for April 7 will be led by Rev. Skip Noftzger*

**SESSION MEETING**, Monday, April 8, 2024

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

April 1	Austin Baker
April 5	BeenyJwok Ojha
April 8	Eva Tomb
April 11	Tina Taylor
April 13	Clifton J. Harris
April 22	Dan Orr
April 29	Ralph T. Shuey

**PRAYER LIST**

**Year 2024** Prayer List. If you have any names to add to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920, send email to [ebgpresby@gmail.com](mailto:ebgpresby@gmail.com) or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Eva Tomb	Phil Brulia
Jim Estep	Walter Feath
Tom R	the O'Brien and Jeffers Families
Ar & Bill McKim	Claudette Segear

The Mission Committee will offer half-camperships for Pine Springs Camp again this year. See Amy Brulia or Martha O'Brien if you have questions.

Recycle: We are still collecting empty or unused ink cartridges for Pine Springs Camp. Place them in the box on the counter in the gathering space. We are also still collecting plastics for the Women's Help Center.



Join us for  
Easter Sunday  
Worship at 11:00