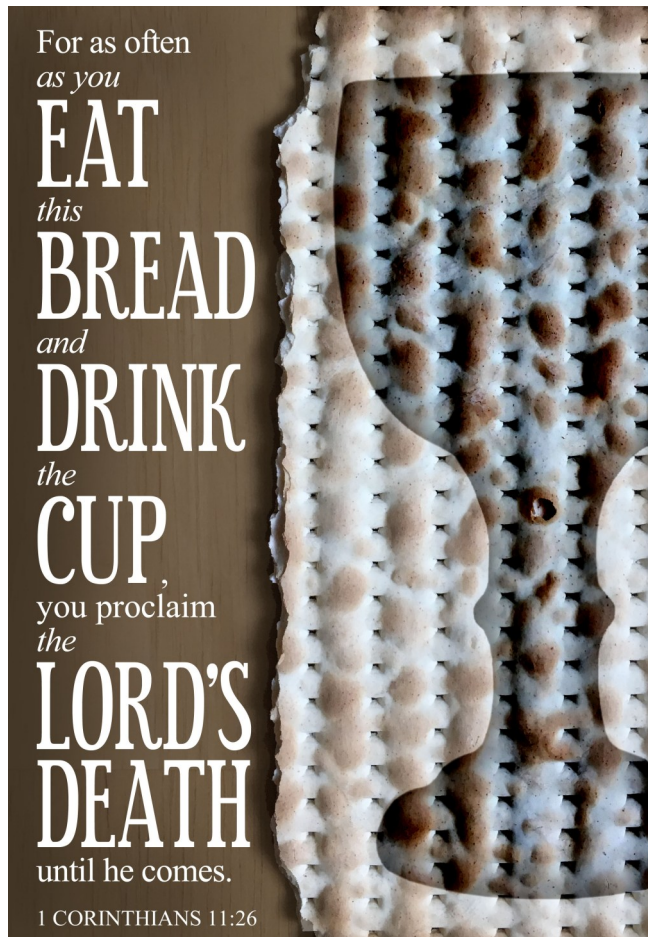


The ancient practice of stripping the Lord's table and sanctuary following communion is a vivid and dramatic way of showing the desolation and abandonment of the long night in Gethsemane and what followed. Designated persons pick up the cloths on the Lord's table and the pulpit and other hangings, banners, candlesticks, and decorations and quietly carry them from the sanctuary. The church then remains bare until Easter Sunday.



Pastor Michael Hood



**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**

**April 2, 2026**

**Pre-Service Music**

Ralph Boggess

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded/Moonlight Sonata”

Hans Leo Hassler/Ludwig van Beethoven/Arr. Craig Courtney

“Lamb of God” Twila Paris

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” William Doane/Arr. Larry Shackley

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Michael

**Greeting and Opening Liturgy**

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.

**That we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

**The First Word**

Luke 23:34 (page 68)

**Anthem**

“The First Word” from The Seven Last Words of Christ

Chancel Choir

Théodore Dubois

Jim Blalock, Baritone

Pastor Michael, Tenor

**The Second Word**

Luke 23:43 (page 68)

**Instrumental Ensemble**

Jim Blalock and Janet Hall, Handbells; Ralph Boggess, Piano

“What Wondrous Love Is This” Early American Hymn/Arr. Molly Ijames

(Hymnal Number 292 Verses 1, 3, and 4)

**The Third Word**

John 19:26-27 (page 87)

**\*Congregational Hymn**

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” Hymnal Number 301

(Verses 1 and 2)

**The Fourth Word**

Mark 15:34 (page 41)

**Anthem**

“And No Bird Sang” Chancel Choir; Elsa Compton, Flute

Douglas Wagner

**Homily**

Pastor Michael

**The Fifth Word**

John 19:28 (page 87)

**\*Congregational Hymn**

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Hymnal Number 286

**The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer**

Hymnal Page 13

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Music During Communion**

“Be Still, My Soul”

Jean Sibelius/Arr. Brian Büda

“The Old Rugged Cross”

George Bennard/Arr. Dale Wood

**The Sixth Word**

John 19:30 (page 87)

**\*Congregational Hymn**

“Were You There”

Hymnal Number 288

(Verses 1, 2, and 4)

**The Seventh Word**

Luke 23:46 (page 68)

**Anthem** “Christ, We Do All Adore Thee” from The Seven Last Words of Christ Chancel Choir

Théodore Dubois

**The Stripping of the Church**

**Music During the Stripping of the Church**

“God So Loved the World” John Stainer/Arr. Jan Sanborn

“Fairest Lord Jesus” Silesian Melody/Arr. Cindy Berry

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Michael

\*Those who are able may stand.