ORDER OF WORSHIP

BELLS

EVENING GREETING

L: Tonight we gather to celebrate a meal which makes it possible for us to be closer to God.

PRELUDE Jesus Wept Over Jerusalem (E. Hazelle)

GREETING

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

- P: And also with you.
- L: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
- P: Christ has prepared a feast of love. Amen.

HYMN

Sweet, Sweet Spirit - UMH # 334 There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

PRAYER

L: My siblings in Christ, it is Christ who shows us his love by becoming a humble servant. Let us draw near to God and confess our sin in the truth of God's spirit.

P: 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.

L: 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!

P: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

ANTHEM

As We Gather at Your Table (C.P. Daw, Jr./S. Chavez-Melo) - Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 13:1-17 (CEB)

Before the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully.

Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and was returning to God. So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing. When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus replied, "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."

"No!" Peter said. "You will never wash my feet!"

Jesus replied, "Unless I wash you, you won't have a place with me."

Simon Peter said, "Lord, not only my feet but also my hands and my head!"

Jesus responded, "Those who have bathed need only to have their feet washed, because they are completely clean. You disciples are clean, but not every one of you." He knew who would betray him. That's why he said, "Not every one of you is clean."

After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them."

SERMON At the Table - Rev. Scott Andrews

HYMN

Jesu, Jesu - UMH # 432 (1-5) REFRAIN: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts as a slave to them. (Refrain)

Neighbors are rich and poor, neighbors are black and white, neighbors are near and far away. (Refrain)

These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbors to us and you. (Refrain)

Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves, this is the way we should live with you. (Refrain)

Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet, this is the way we should live with you. (Refrain)

WASHING OF HANDS

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING THE BREAD

Let us break bread together on our knees, let us break bread together on our knees, When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

GIVING THANKS FOR THE CUP

Let us drink wine together on our knees, let us drink wine together on our knees. When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

PRAYING FOR GOD'S BLESSING

Let us praise God together on our knees, let us praise God together on our knees. When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Go to Dark Gethsemane (setting, W. Held)

ASSISTING WITH TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Liturgist: Peggy Dougherty Director of Choirs: Anna DeMichele Organist: James Petri Preaching: Rev. Scott Andrews



Thursday, April 17, 2025 AT THE TABLE John 13:1-17 (CEB)

California Heights UMC 3759 Orange Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807 www.calheightsumc.org