

April 9, 2020

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Welcome & Introduction

Prelude: Drop, drop slow tears, by Orlando Gibbons

Soloist: Bruce Nasmith

Call to worship:

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

**The sacrifice acceptable to God is a humble spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, you will not despise.**

Hymn #224: An upper room did our Lord prepare

Soloist: Bruce Nasmith

Lessons & Prayers

First Lesson: Genesis 1. 26-28

Dr. Harris

26 Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

27 So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

Unison Prayer:

O God, we marvel at your creation, and are awed by the great responsibility you have given us in creating us. You have given us "dominion" over all life on the earth, dominion not to control and dominate for ourselves but as a stewardship of service and care according to your image. May we learn from Christ, who stooped to wash the feet of the lowly, what this means. Amen.

(The first candle is extinguished)

Second Lesson: Genesis 9: 8-13

Michael Nettleton

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 9‘As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you,10and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. 11I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.’ 12God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: 13I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

Unison Prayer:

Almighty God, You have made a covenant with us, to be our God and to be steadfast in your commitment toward us in spite of our frequent betrayal of our calling to be your children. We are humbled by your love and we give thanks. Amen.

(The second candle is extinguished)

Third Lesson: Genesis 22: 15-18

Erin Stone

15 The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven,16and said, ‘By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, 18and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.’

Unison Prayer:

O God, like Abraham your servant may we, too, commit ourselves completely to your will and hold nothing back from you. May all the obstacles to our obedience to you be taken away, one by one. Amen.

(The third candle is extinguished)

Fourth Lesson: Exodus 14: 19-22

Ryan Matheson

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 20It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. 22The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Unison Prayer:

Almighty God, through your servant Moses you worked tremendous miracles. He believed in you even against impossible odds. May we too be opened to the possibilities you can accomplish in our lives beyond the seeming impossibilities that weigh heavy upon us. Amen.

(The fourth candle is extinguished)

Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 55: 1-3a, 6-7

Pam McCarroll

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
3 Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
6 Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Unison Prayer:

O God, we thank you for the abundance of food and drink that surrounds us. Especially we thank you this night for bread and wine, nourishment for our bodies and for our souls. Amen.

(The fifth candle is extinguished)

Sixth Lesson: Ezekiel 36: 24-28

Judy Nettleton

24I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land.
25I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. 28Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Unison Prayer:

Almighty God, cleanse us and renew us. Break through our hardness of heart which we allow to form in us in order to protect us from life. Give us hearts of flesh and blood so that we can feel life in all its fullness: its pain, which can make us more sensitive and humble, and beyond pain to that mysterious joy which only you can give, a joy that centers and enlivens us beyond anything this world can do to us. Amen.

(The sixth candle is extinguished)

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4 got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' 7 Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 8 Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' 9 Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!' 10 Jesus said to him, 'One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.' 11 For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, 'Not all of you are clean.'

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Unison Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we cannot understand it. The night before your passion when you would be abandoned by all, you took a towel and water and washed the feet of your disciples. Such humility, such love, is too wonderful for us to digest. Yet we need you more than anything we have ever needed. May the bread we eat and the cup we drink become in us your body and blood, and may we be transformed. Amen.

(The seventh candle is extinguished)

Silent Prayer

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you

Hymn #225: A new commandment

Erin Stone



Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

Our Father....

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after communion: Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this meal, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude: Christ is the King

Written and performed by Bruce Nasmith



Armour Heights Presbyterian Church

105 Wilson Avenue, Toronto M5M 2Z9

Church: (416) 485-4000, estone@armourheights.org

Website: www.armourheights.org

"Discover the Vitality of faith"