

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

Maundy Thursday Worship

March 28, 2024

11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Ah! Holy Jesus”

J. Cruger

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Joyce Wildi

Leader: We are Jesus’ disciples, following him even as he moves toward the cross.

All: Even as he wraps a towel around his waist. Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.

Leader: We are Jesus’ disciples, longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

All: Even as betrayers loom. Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ press in around us.

Leader: We are Jesus’ disciples, struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us.

All: We are Jesus’ disciples, gathered here to worship God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

***HYMN #203 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Eternal God, 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.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lyanna Atkinson

FIRST READING Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Geoff Atkinson

SPECIAL MUSIC “Were You There?”

D. E. Wagner

Amy Shupe, piano ~ Geoff Atkinson, violin

SECOND READING John 13:1-17, 31b-35

HYMN #202 “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

THE WASHING

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to the Lord’s Table, Great Thanksgiving, and the Lord’s Prayer (congregational response in bold)

Friends, why have you come?

To taste and see that the Lord is good.

Whom do you seek?

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, our host and guest.

Who may gather at this table?

The Lord invites everyone; no one is turned away.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On this holy night, gathered around your table,
we remember how you have fed us.

In Eden's garden...we could not have.
God's people ate, and it was the first sin.

In the desert...and water from a rock.
God's people ate, and our strength was renewed.

In the kingdom...set out food without cost.
God's people ate, and relearned how to share.

In a stable in Bethlehem...and be called the bread of life.
God ate with us. God shared our life.

On a hillside in Galilee...a feast for thousands.
God's people ate, and believed the good news.

On a mountain by the sea...an answer to our prayer.
God's people pray still:
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.

Holy Spirit...your forgiveness and love.
As God's people eat, transform our hearts.

In an upper room in Jerusalem...sealed in his own blood.
God's people ate, and their sin was lifted from them.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and of the Cup

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.

ENTERING THE DARKEST DAY

HYMN #223 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Gethsemane & the Arrest of Jesus Mark 14:32-52 Jerri Mollick

Jesus before the high priest Mark 14:53-63 Brandon Ray

Jesus before Pontius Pilot Mark 15:1-5 Raymond Varner

Jesus is mocked and beaten Mark 15:16-20 Mike Mollick

Jesus is crucified Mark 15:21-32 Alicia Kavulic

Jesus Dies Mark 15:33-41 Vivian Shaeffer

HYMN #221 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Jesus is Buried Mark 15:42-47 Rev. Niki Atkinson

THE SENDING

There is no benediction this evening. Worshipers wait in prayer as Pastor Niki walks the remaining light through the sanctuary and back to the communion table. After the candle is blown out, all may depart in silence.

*Please stand in body or spirit

Wrapping our community in God's love, one person at a time.

We believe that we are all ministers supported by:

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Wed. & Fri. 9:30-4:00

Please call for appointments.

E-mail pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

Dan Tomlinson, Custodian

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday – 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

The Board of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church Association has awarded a grant of \$10,000 to the FOOD 4 KIDS MINISTRY. Food 4 Kids will be receiving quarterly disbursements from the Ethel L. Verney Fund. We are grateful to our friends at First Evangelical Lutheran in Apollo for applying for and securing this magnificent grant.



Anonymous ~ "The Foot Washing"

