

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MARCH 28, 2024 7:00 P.M.

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING AND JUST PEACE CHURCH*

***MAUNDY THURSDAY***

## **Welcome and Greeting**

### **Invitation to the Table**

**Reading 1 Mark 14:1-11**

**Penny Lamarre**

**\*Hymn 226**

**O Sacred Head Now Wounded**

**Reading 2 Mark 14:12-21**

**Dan Tinkham**

### **Prayer of Confession**

Holy love, we gather here to participate in this ancient story, to remember the lengths that the authorities were willing to go to in order to silence you. We read the familiar texts, we participate in the familiar rituals, we remember that which we know well.

**And we confess that in our familiarity with your story, we can lose sight of the ways in which that story continues to play out in our world. We treat the remembrance of betrayal and desertion as ancient history, rather than as a mirror into the world around us. We neglect to pay attention to the ways in which those who call us to new life and growth, to justice and equity, are still scapegoated, humiliated, and tortured. We do not acknowledge the crucifixions that this world still imposes, in so many ways.**

Call us again to stand at the foot of the cross. Call us to the courage of bearing witness to those who are silenced by a world that resists change. Call us to the discipleship that speaks out boldly in the face of injustice and suffering, even when we are as afraid as Peter. Call us to the love that does hard things, even when the cost seems steep.

**Renew us in your love, O God of all, that we might pour that love out upon all Creation.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

God did not wait until we had achieved perfection to come to Earth and walk among us. God did not wait until we were ready to hear before calling us to a more loving way. We are enough, just as we are, to be disciples. We are enough, just as we are, and God's faith in us abides always. In love, we are held; by grace we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**



Anthem                      Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days                      Claudia Hernaman

Reading 3 Mark 14: 22-31

Margie Krietler

### Communion Prayer

#### Prayer of our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy will be done, thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Reading 4 Mark 14: 32-50

John Walker

#### Blessing of the Elements

Holy one, we remember that when the time was right, you sent Jesus to be among us.

Born into this life, seeing your grace revealed in all things, he laughed with those who laughed, and mourned with those who mourned.

Through your love, he healed our brokenness, he welcomed the outcast, he challenged those in power and the structures that kept them there.

And he called us back to your love.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, the Christ laughs and cries, heals and welcomes, challenges and loves, again and again and again.

We have been told that, on the night before he was taken to be tortured to death on a cross, Jesus sat with his disciples, and ate with them, in a meal of remembrance. Jesus took a loaf of bread, asked your blessing upon it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:

**“Take this – all of you – and eat it. This is me. My Body. Given for you. Each time you eat it, remember me.”**

Close to the meal's end, he took a cup filled with wine, asked your blessing upon it, and gave it to his disciples saying:

**“Take this – all of you – and drink it. This is me. This is my promise in my life’s blood - poured out for you and for the world. Each time you drink it, remember me.”**

O God of all, we ask your blessing upon this bread and this cup, and upon all of us who renew our covenant with you. Through this meal, may we be one Body in Christ, renewed and blessed in your holy love. Amen.

### **Sharing of the Elements**

**Special Music: Pie Jesu**

**Gabriel Faure  
sung by Jaylene Bengtson**

**Reading 5 Mark 14: 53-54, 66-72**

**Diane Tinkham**

**Prayer Of Thanksgiving**

**Reading 6 Mark 14: 55-65**

**Muff Kruse**

**Hymn 229**

**Were You There?**

**Reading 7 Mark 15:1-15**

**Wayne Domin**

**Bringing In the Cross**

**Reading 8 Mark 15: 25-39**

**Beth Shehadi**