

**The Covenant of Our
Congregation
Adopted in 1962**

We do hereby set forth the principles of the Christian faith as commonly held among us, believing that no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

It shall be our aim to bring joy to little children, instruction and high ideals to youth, inspiration to men and women in the midst of life, and comfort to those in life's later years; and to labor together for the betterment of humankind.

Our fellowship shall not be dependent upon identity of theological opinion, or of outward circumstance, or of denominational concern, but shall grow from a common loyalty to Jesus, a common commitment to serve the world we touch, and a common purpose to do justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

Our ideal is a church of the open mind, the warm heart, the hopeful spirit, and the social vision which ever seeks to express, in all walks of life, the mind of Jesus.



Maundy Thursday

April 18, 2019



First Reformed Church
8 North Church Street
Schenectady, New York 12305
(518) 377-2201 www.1stReformed.com

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 2019

*The congregation may stand.

Maundy is derived from the Latin word for mandate or commandment. On the night before his death, Jesus said to his disciples: "I give you a new commandment, that you love another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

At the end of the service, the congregation is encouraged to leave in silent reflection.

PRELUDE Wayne Hawkins
Seasonal Hymns

GREETING Bill Levering

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN *Go to Dark Gethsemane* #97 (vs 1-3)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

On this night we remember how you shared, how you served, how you loved, and how you died. We confess the ways in which we have not followed your example, and have done harm to ourselves, to others, and to your world.

(silent prayers of confession)

Holy God, as we eat broken bread and drink the cup of your suffering, as we hear the story of how far your love for us went, transform us so that we might risk new healing. Nourish us by your table and word so that we might be whole.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

Christ Went Up Into the Hills Alone

Roberta Bitgood

Christ went up into the hills alone,
Walking slowly the winding way,
Far from the city's dust and stone,
Up to lonely hills to pray.
There was no one to go with Him,
In His lonely walk through the silent night:

Only the hush of the starshine dim,
Only the shadowed hill road white,
Only the lambs calling each to each,
And the tender good night of dreaming birds.
Only a love too pure for speech,
And a grief too deep for words.

Christ went up into the hills alone,
Christ went up alone.

Tenebrae Services

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION Bill Levering

COMMUNION HYMN #94
An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

COMMUNION 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.

COMMUNION

Worshippers are invited to come forward to receive Communion by dipping the bread in the cup. All followers of Christ are welcome.

*HYMN *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* #98

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Tenebrae is the Latin word for shadows. This ancient service invites worshipers to meditate on Christ's passion. The candles are extinguished to represent the desertion and abandonment of Christ on the way to the cross.

Shadows Predicted

John 13:31-38

Amy Brule

Organ Interlude

Shadows of the Agony of Spirit

Mark 14:32-42

Cynde Schwartz

Choral Interlude

"Agnus Dei"

Shadows of Accusation

Matthew 26:59-67

George Trimarco

Organ Interlude

Shadows of Denial

Matthew 26:69-75

Carol Troost

Choral Interlude

"Kyrie"

Shadows of Crucifixion

Mark 15:22-32

Cynde Schwartz

Choral Interlude

"Crucifixus"

Shadows of Forsakeness

Mark 15:33-36

Amy Brule

Organ Interlude

Shadows of Death

Luke 23:33-46

Bill Levering

Choral Interlude

"Passus"

PRAYER

CREED (*unison*)

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

DISMISSAL

+ + +

Celebrants in today's service are: Bill Levering and Abby Norton Levering.

The Office of Tenebrae choral music is from *A Sacred Cantata* by Joseph Clokey.

A Good Friday service will be held tomorrow in the sanctuary at 12pm.

Easter Sunday join us for the grand celebration of Easter joy at 10am for Worship.