

Living Stones

“You yourselves are being built like living stones into a spiritual temple.” (1 Peter 2.5)

Mason First Presbyterian Church

To be added to or removed from this list, please notify Bill.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020



Let us worship in our homes tonight at 7:00pm, so we can celebrate the sacrament simultaneously. If possible, have some bread (or a communion wafer) and some grape juice (or wine) ready at hand. Please do not eat the bread or drink the cup until clearly directed, near the very end of the service.

An audio recording of this entire service (except the music) will be available online at www.masonpresbyterian.org.

You are welcome to share this with your friends.

Introit: “Dreamers and Doubters”

You may listen to this moving anthem (which our choir would have sung tonight) [here](#).

Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me!

Come dreamers and doubters. Come wounded and whole.
Come fragile and fearless. Come bashful and bold.
Come seekers and sharers. Come sinners and saints.
There’s room at the table, the table of grace.
There’s room at the table of grace.

Come thirsty and thriving. Come struggling. Come strong.
Come helpless and healthy. Come right and come wrong.
Come troubled and tranquil, find peace in this place.
There’s room at the table, the table of grace.
There’s room at the table of grace.
There’s room at the table. Come rest and be known.
The Savior is waiting to welcome you home.

Come feast on forgiveness. Come rest and renew.
There’s room at the table for you. There’s room at the table for you.
Come fallen and faithful. Come shattered and sound.
Come hungry and healthy. Come lost and come found.

Come rebel and righteous, you're safe in this space.
There's room at the table, the table of grace.
There's room at the table of grace.

Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me.

(words and music by Joseph M. Martin)

Opening Sentences

Jesus said: "I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another." (*John 13:34*)
Just as Christ has loved us,
let us love one another.

Beloved people of God:
This is the day
when Christ, our Passover Lamb,
surrendered himself to those who would kill him,
setting us free from sin and death forever.

This is the day
when Christ, our Teacher and Lord,
knelt down to wash the disciples' feet,
showing us how to love and serve one another.

This is the day
when Christ, the bread of heaven,
shared a holy meal with his followers,
offering a feast of abundant life and grace for all.

Prayer of the Day

O God, your love is embodied in Jesus Christ,
who washed disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal.
Wash us from the stain of sin,
so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail,
but follow your Son through every trial,
and praise him always as Lord and Christ. Amen.

Hymn: "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

An upper room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there
to celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.

And after supper he washed their feet,
for service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:

sent out to serve, as he was sent.

No end there is! We depart in peace.
He loves beyond our uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
Christ will be there, as Lord and host.

(lyrics by Fred Pratt Green, 1973, alt.)

Confession and Pardon

The proof of God's amazing love is this:
while we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him,
we dare to approach God with confidence.
In faith and penitence
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

(an extended time of silent confession is appropriate on Maundy Thursday)

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.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, by your Word and Spirit,
you have given us a new commandment:
to love and serve one another in Jesus' name.
Let the good news of your liberating love

be sealed in our hearts and shown in our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gospel Lesson: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 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. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 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." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

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? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Prayers of Intercession

Liberating and redeeming God,
we give thanks that you hear the cries of your people.
Therefore, in our time of trial, we call upon your name,
saying: Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

As you delivered our ancestors from slavery
and led them to a land of promise and plenty,
liberate all who are captive or oppressed
and bring them to a place of abundant life.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

As you saved your people from death
on the night of the Passover,
redeem us from sin and death

through Jesus Christ the Lamb.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

As Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord
stooped down to wash his disciples' feet,
teach us to love and serve our neighbors
with Christlike compassion and humility.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

As Christ the Lord has handed on to us
a feast of grace in his body and blood,
help us to share with all who hunger
the gifts we have received from you.
Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

God our liberator and redeemer,
we give thanks that you have heard our cry.
Continue to lead us from death to life eternal,
and let our lives be a sign of your saving love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



The Last Supper, by Leonardo da Vinci

(source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Last_Supper_-_Leonardo_Da_Vinci_-_High_Resolution_32x16.jpg)

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord said to Moses:
"This shall be a day of remembrance for you,
you shall celebrate it as a festival of the Lord." (*Exodus 12:14*)

Paul says to the Church:
"As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." (*1 Corinthians 11:26*)

This is the Lord's table.
Our Savior invites all who trust in him
to share the feast that he has prepared.

Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together"

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.

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.

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.

(African American spiritual)

Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

You made us in your image,
and freed us from the bonds of slavery.
You claimed us as your people,
and made covenant to be our God.
You fed us manna in the wilderness,
and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey.
When we forgot your covenant
you spoke through prophets,
calling us to turn again to your ways.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the celestial choirs
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!*

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
In humility he descends from your heights,
to kneel in obedience to love's commands.
He who is boundless takes on the bondage of our sin.
He who is free takes our place in death's prison.
He who is risen leads us to eternal life.

On the night before he met with death,
Jesus came to the table with those he loved.
He took bread
and praised you, God of all creation.
He broke the bread among his disciples
and said: "Take this, all of you, and eat it.
This is my body, given for you."

When the supper was ended,
he took a cup of wine
and gave thanks to you, God of all creation.
He passed the cup among his disciples
and said: "Take this, all of you, and drink from it.
This is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,
we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us,
and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.
Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ
and with all who are baptized in his name,
that we may be one in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Lead us, O God, by the power of your Spirit
to live as love commands.
Bound to Christ,
set us free for joyful obedience and glad service.
As Jesus gave his life for ours,
help us to live our lives for others

with humility and persistent courage.
Give us strength to serve you faithfully
until the promised day of resurrection,
when, with the redeemed of all the ages,
we will feast with you at your table in glory.

Through Christ,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever. *Amen.*

As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray:
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.*

Breaking of the Bread

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life." (*John 6:35*)
(*The bread is broken.*)

Jesus said: "I am the vine, you are the branches." (*John 15:5*)
(*The cup is poured.*)

"Come to me and never be hungry;
believe in me and never thirst."

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "Pass the Bread, Pass the Cup"

You can listen to this lovely anthem [here](#).

Pass the bread, pass the wine.
At the table of the Lord, we dine with Jesus.
Pass the bread, pass the cup.
We proclaim our Lord's death, until he comes again.
Pass the bread, pass the wine.
At the table of the Lord, we find forgiveness.
Pass the bread, pass the cup.
We proclaim our Lord's death, until he comes again.

Here, at the supper that we share, we feel his peace,
we see his love. Here, in an attitude of prayer,
We pass the bread, pass the cup, pass the peace, pass the love.

Pass the peace, pass the love.
Take them with you as you leave this house of worship.
Pass the peace, pass the love.
To a waiting world that longs for Jesus,
pass the bread, pass the cup, pass the peace, pass the love.

(words and music by Ruth Elaine Schram)

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.
(You may eat the bread.)
Amen.

The blood of Christ, given for you.
(You may drink the cup.)
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Blessing and Charge

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord be kind and gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace. *Amen.*

Go out into the world in peace;
have courage;
hold onto what is good;
return to no one evil for evil;
support the weak;
help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Join us tomorrow for Good Friday...

Credits

*Prayers courtesy of the PC(USA)'s 2018 Book of Common Worship
Scripture passages are from the New Revised Standard Version
Special thanks to Darlene for hymn suggestions and Deb for anthem suggestions*