AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY Woodridge United Methodist Church

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

Maundy Thursday

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

*Call to Worship

Bud Edman: Just as the disciples gathered in a room with Jesus, so we gather in this place, ready to watch, listen, and pray on this Holy Thursday.

Many Voices: We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, who sets us free.

Bud Edman: As Jesus kneels to wash the dirt from the disciples' feet, we join in their surprise; we've never seen a Savior who acts like a servant.

Many Voices: We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, who sets us free.

Bud Edman: As Jesus calls the disciples to wash one another's feet, we receive with them a new commandment: to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

Many Voices: We come to remember and encounter Love Incarnate, who sets us free.

Bud Edman: Beloved, come. Come to kneel as a servant, come to the table with your fellow disciples, come to worship Love Incarnate, who sets you free.

Many Voices: We come to remember and to worship God who has loosed our bonds and set us free to love one another as God has loved us.

*Opening Hymn

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"

UMH #623

Invocation

Bud Edman: Holy God, source and sovereign, you put all power and authority into the hands of Christ— Christ, who washes our feet in humble service. Teach us to love one another as Christ has loved us, so that everyone will know that we are his disciples; through Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Friend, we pray.

Many Voices: Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Many Voices: Merciful and Gracious God, you have loved us to the end. There was betrayal in our heart, yet you loved us anyway. You knew we would deny you, yet you loved us anyway. In our selfishness, we balked, we objected, we disapproved, yet you loved us anyway. We sought to point the finger at anyone other than ourselves, yet you loved us anyway. Forgive us, we pray. Renew our healing convictions, restore our call to service, rekindle our flame for justice, that we may once again become your people of peace and justice.

[Offer Silent Prayers of Confession]

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastor Dave: Receive the good news. The One who created us has called us. There is now no condemnation, no shame at the table of God, only the love that makes us whole

again. Only the love we offer others. In God's name, we are forgiven.

Many Voices: In God's name, we have been set free. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Scripture Readings

New Testament Lesson 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NRSVue)
Gospel Lesson John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (NRSVue)

Response to the Word

Bud Edman: God has been glorified. Christ is with us and calls us to love one another. **Many Voices: We will love one another as Christ has commanded us. Amen.**

Special Music (Pastor Dave) "He Touched Me" UMH #367

Sermon "Maundy Thursday Reflection" Pastor Dave

Hand-Washing

With Singing "Jesu, Jesu" UMH #432

Holy Communion

Prayer of Dedication

Bud Edman: God of blessings, even when the workings of the world are harsh,

Many Voices: you are present.

Bud Edman: Even when shame rattles our souls,

Many Voices: you pour goodness and mercy upon us. Bud Edman: May we live into the command of Christ: Many Voices: love one another as Christ loved us. Bud Edman: Through our actions, our faith comes alive

Many Voices: and our neighbors experience Divine love in new ways. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "What Wonderous Love Is This" UMH #292

*Benediction

Going Forth to the World

Good Friday Worship Service Tomorrow, Friday, April 18th at 7:00 pm Easter Flower Set-up Saturday, April 19th at 9:00 am Easter Celebration, Sunday, April 20th at 10:00 am