

COMMUNION

- Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians when we recall Jesus's cross, relive His anguish, and renew our vows to live as His followers.
- We invite all to participate in this meal: who profess faith in Jesus Christ, who are members of a gospel-proclaiming church, who are endeavoring to live at peace with God and others, and who seek strengthening grace to live more faithfully for Jesus.
- If you are not yet a follower of Jesus, we encourage you to spend this time considering Jesus's broken body and shed blood. Pray and ask Him to forgive your sins and to give you eternal life.

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" No. 252 (vv. 1-4)

†BENEDICTION

1 Peter 5:10-11 ESV

Pastor: And after you have suffered a little while,
the God of all grace,
Who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ,
will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.
To Him be the dominion forever and ever.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE

*"Finale" from "Variations on Wondrous Love" by John Eggert
Wesley Roberts, organ*

Worship Leaders

Darrin Hassevoort, *Director of Music & Worship*
West Breedlove, *Assistant Director of Worship*

Presiding Minister

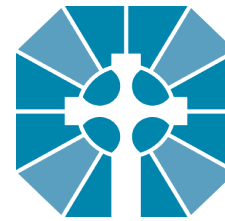
Randy Nabors, *Pastor of Missions*

Preacher

Richard G. Cain, *Senior Assistant Pastor*

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FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
CHATTANOOGA

At First Presbyterian, we seek to be a healthy church exhibiting all the fullness of Christ as we disciple believers who develop spiritually, connect relationally, and engage missionally to reach Chattanooga and the world with the gospel.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Communion Service

March 28, 2024 | 6:30 PM

† *Please stand as you are able.*

WORSHIP REFLECTION

The term "Maundy Thursday" comes from the Latin phrase "mandatum novum," which means "new commandment." The biblical reference is John 13, which features the story of Jesus washing the disciples' feet, followed by His statement about His new commandment to love one another just as He has loved us.

B.W. Johnson says this foot-washing episode serves as "a rebuke to the disciples' ambitious strife, far more powerful than words could have spoken: It is such a rebuke that never again do we see a hint of the old question, 'Who should be greatest?' It was Christ's answer to their unseemly conduct and a lesson to all believers for all time. It said, 'Let him that would be greatest become the servant of all.'"

PRELUDE

"A Servant's Song" by Joseph M. Martin

Instrumental Ensemble

†CALL TO WORSHIP

John 13: 34-35 ESV

Pastor: A new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another:
just as I have loved you,
you also are to love one another.

**People: By this all people will know
that you are My disciples,
if you have love for one another.**

†PRAYER OF INVOCATION

†OPENING HYMN

“There Is a Fountain”

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 14:12-21

*Randy Nabors
Pew Bible, pp. 850-851*

†HYMN OF PRAISE

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted” No. 257 (vv. 1-4)

HOMILY

“Devoted to the Breaking of Bread”

Mark 14:22-31 (p. 851)

Richard G. Cain

OUTLINE

1. The First Amen Saying (v. 25). Jesus says, “I am radically and completely committed to getting you safely home to be with Me.”

2. The Second Amen Saying (v. 30). Jesus says, “I have taken into account that you, My redeemed people, will fail Me.”

3. What difference should this make in our lives?
 - a. The humbling effect of the Lord’s Supper - Honest confession.
 - b. The cheering effect of the Lord’s Supper - Unshakeable assurance.
 - c. The sanctifying effect of the Lord’s Supper - Full devotion.

†HYMN OF PREPARATION

“Behold the Lamb”

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, our heavenly Father,
we confess that we have doubted Your care and love
when facing our own bitter cups of suffering and pain.
Pardon us for not keeping watch with You in temptation’s hour.
Instead of desiring Your will
we have been absorbed with our own.
Forgive us for betraying our loyalty to You
by loving other things and people more than You.
Left to ourselves, we would run away in shame.
Yet Your Son gladly stoops again to serve us
by washing us with the waters of His blood.
Cleanse us thoroughly for we pray in the blessed name
of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Isaiah 53:5-6 ESV

But He was pierced for our transgressions;
He was crushed for our iniquities;
upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with His wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on Him
the iniquity of us all.

†HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” No. 247 (vv. 1-3)