



**Second Congregational UCC/First Presbyterian Church PC(USA)**  
*Energizing downtown Rockford and beyond with God's grace*

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Maundy Thursday  
Order of Worship

March 28, 2024  
6:30 PM

*\*= please rise, whether in body or in spirit*

**PRELUDE**

“Ich ruf zu dir” (I Call to Thee)

J.S. Bach

**WELCOME**

Becky Erbe

Leader: May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP♦**

Becky Erbe

Leader: We join a solemn journey of three days that has changed the world and our own lives. Followers of Jesus have been taking this journey since his first followers took it, long ago.

**All: This is the night of love.**

*(pause)*

Leader: On this night Jesus took a towel and basin, and washed his disciples' feet. On this night he told them to do the same for others to show their love for him and for one another.

**All: This is the night of love, for everyone born.**

*(pause)*

Leader: On this night, Jesus broke bread and shared wine with his followers for the last time, and invited them to remember him, to encounter him anew, whenever they did the same.

**All: This is the night of love, for everyone born, who have a place at the table.**

*(pause)*

Leader: On this night, followers of Jesus have welcomed those who have returned to the way of Jesus after a time of wandering and a journey of returning.

**All: This is the night of love, for everyone born who can be creators of justice, joy, compassion and peace.**

*(pause)*

Leader: This is the night of love and so, on this night, we welcome the penitent –

**All: all here have wandered,**

Leader: and invite all who are seeking,

**All: all here are still learning,**

Leader: to join us in hearing and obeying the commandment of our Master and to feast at his table,

**All: that we may love one another as he has loved us.**

Leader: Come, ye sinners. Come, ye thirsty. Come, ye weary.

**All: Come to the night of love, for everyone born.**

**\*HYMN #769 VS 1-3, 5**

“For Everyone Born”

FOR EVERYONE BORN

**NEW COMMANDMENT READING**

John 13:1-7, 12-16, 31b-35

Phil Davidson

**RESPONDING to the SPIRIT**

Hand Washing

Kris Delmore  
Becky Erbe

**CALL TO TRANSFORM♦♦**

Becky Erbe

**PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION**

Kris Delmore

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who grieve this day know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.

**All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.**

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who come with gladness know that your melody will find harmony.

**All: Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.**

Leader: Come with what you have. For you weighed down by too many 'shoulds' and 'what-ifs' know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.

**All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.**

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who have the answers, know that new questions await you.

**All: Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.**

Leader: Come with what you have. For you who come seeking, know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.

**All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.**

*One Minute of silent reflection*

**WORDS OF GRACE**

**SONG OF REFLECTION**

“What Wondrous Love is This”  
Sanctuary Choir

M. Patterson

**REMEMBERING THE LAST SUPPER**

Becky Erbe

Leader: This is the night of love. And you are seated at the table of love. At this table, Christ, who loves us, is with us.

**All: He is with us, and we are his. We belong to God.**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

## **PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER**

Kris Delmore

Leader: When the time arrived for Jesus to be lifted up; When all had been prepared, and He shared His last meal with His friends, The Lord, took the loaf, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples.

**All: When you eat the bread, remember Me. This is my body broken for you.**

Leader; When the meal was finished, The Lord took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to the disciples.

**All: When you drink the wine, remember Me.**

Leader: This is my blood shed for you. Now, as we gather at this table, we eat bread; we drink wine; and we remember the One Who died to bring us life.

**All: And we will keep sharing this meal until He returns.**

Leader: With our shared voices, let us pray the prayer of our Lord.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**All: And we will keep sharing this meal until He returns.**

Leader: With our shared voices, let us pray the prayer of our Lord.

*We will be receiving communion this evening at the Communion Table. The ushers will invite twelve people at a time to the table. Please notify the usher if you wish to receive communion at your seat.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

\*HYMN # 498 vs 1-4

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”

BEACH SPRING

## **RETURN TO THE SHADOWS**

**SHADOW OF BETRAYAL READING**

Matthew 26: 20-22, 25

Phil Davidson

**SHADOW OF DESERTION READING**

Matthew 26: 31a, 33-35

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

“Epilogue”  
Julie Cook Ramirez, classical guitar

F. Sheehy

**AGONY OF THE SOUL READING**

Luke 22:39-44

Kris Delmore

**UNSHARED VIGIL**

Mark 14-32-41

Becky Erbe

\*HYMN # 204

“Stay With Me”

STAY WITH ME

**ARREST IN THE GARDEN**

John 18:1-5

Phil Davidson

**SHADOW OF THE CROSS**

Mark 15:16-20

Kris Delmore

**Hymn #227**

“Jesus, Remember Me”

REMEMBER ME

**THE PROMISE**

John 1:1-15

Becky Erbe

*This Concludes our Service. Please Leave in Silence*

◆ Edited from St. John's United Church Wilde Lake Interfaith Center



Valerie Blair, organist, pianist  
Julie Cook Ramirez, classical guitar  
Richard Stiltner, choir director  
Steve Muntz, Wes Hegge, video, sound