**HYMN** What Wondrous Love Is This No. 85

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 26:30-56

**HYMN** Go to Dark Gethsemane No. 97

BENEDICTION (ref. Matt 26:40/Mark 14:37; Genesis 31:49)

Pastor: We have watched in Gethsemane for one hour.

People: "The Lord watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other."



# Join us tomorrow evening for our 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service



Celebrate the resurrection of our risen Lord! Easter Sunday Service, March 31 10:15 a.m.

Invite family members, friends and neighbors.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg...... Pastor Stacie Baker.....Office Manager Scott Vandermyde......Organist Courtney Bruckner......Custodian

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> Reaching out to our neighbor with open hearts; sharing God's blessings with others.





When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them. "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

—Luke 22:14-18

First Presbyterian Church
March 28, 2024 Maundy Thursday Communion

Morrison, Illinois 7:00PM

### PRELUDE

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: On this day Christ the Lamb of God gave himself into the hands of those who would slay him.

All: On this day Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room.

Pastor: On this day Christ took a towel and washed the disciples' feet, giving us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us.

All: On this day Christ our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his holy sacrifice and be partakers of his resurrection, and the last day may reign with him in heaven.

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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison) (ref. John 13:34)

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**HYMN** An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

No. 94

## **CONFESSION AND PARDON**

# **Call to Confession**

Pastor: 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.

All: 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.

# **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Pastor: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 26:17-29

#### THE EUCHARIST

#### **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

Pastor: Hear the words of the institution of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ: The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes. With thanksgiving, let us offer God our grateful praise.

# **Great Thanksgiving** (Responsively)

Pastor: 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 bring forth bread from the earth, and create the fruit of the vine. 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 you and our faith was weak, 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.

All: 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.

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whom you sent to deliver us from the bondage of death and slavery to sin. 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. In the deserts of our wanderings, he sustains us, giving us his body as manna for our weariness. The cup of suffering which he drank has become for us the cup of salvation. In his death, he ransomed us from death's dominion; in his resurrection, he opened the way to eternal life. 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.

All: Dying, you destroyed our death; rising, you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Pastor: 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.

#### **Distribution of the Elements**

The Lords Prayer (Unison)

SCRIPTURE READING

John 13:31-35