

The Meaning of Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is the day during Holy Week in which Christians commemorate the event of the Last Supper. On that night more than 2,000 years ago, Jesus and his disciples were celebrating a Passover meal when Jesus offered them the bread as his body and the wine as his blood in order to establish a new covenant with them. The word “Maundy” comes from a Latin term meaning “mandate” and refers to Jesus’ command to continue the celebration of this Last Supper. Each time we participate in communion (and especially on Maundy Thursday), the commandment of Jesus is being obeyed.

April 18, Good Friday

7:00 p.m. **Good Friday Service**

April 20, Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. **Community Sunrise Service**
in EPC Courtyard

8:45 a.m. **Traditional Service**

9:45 a.m.—10:30 a.m. **Drop-in Fellowship**
in EPC Courtyard

10:30 a.m. **Jubilee and Traditional Services**

Remember to bring flowers to decorate the flower cross!

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Parish Associate

Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry

Louis Shirer, Organist

Blythe Lewis, Sr. Communications Officer

Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center

Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian

James Cassidy, A/V Director

Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor

Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate

Alisha Hudson, Business Administrator

Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth

Katie Herndon, Day School Director

Christy Rippy, Treasurer



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



Maundy Thursday
April 17, 2025
7:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 17, 2025

Please enter the Sanctuary in silent reflection.

Prelude
O World, I Must Let You Go Johannes Brahms

The Gathering
Welcome Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

Call to Worship:
Leader: Jesus said, I give you a new commandment that you love one another
People: **Just as Christ has loved us, let us love one another.**
Leader: We remember today that Christ our Passover Lamb, surrendered Himself to free us.
People: **Lord have mercy.**
Leader: We remember today that Christ our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to serve
People: **Christ have mercy.**
Leader: We remember this day that Christ, the Bread of heaven, began the communion feast.
All: **Lord have mercy upon us. Teach us to love, to serve, and to worship.**

*Opening Hymn #202 *An Upper Room* O WALY WALY

*Call to Confession Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

*Prayer of Confession (Unison):
Father, thank you that you so loved us that you sent your Son to redeem us that we might have life. We confess that we do not love you as we should. Jesus, thank you that you served us in your life and in your death and in your rising again. We confess that we do not serve you or love our neighbor as we should. Holy Spirit, you inspire us to keep the feast, to come to worship, and give of ourselves. We confess we do not listen to your voice speaking through scripture or calling us through Providence. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we admit that all we like sheep have gone astray. We turn everyone to our own way. Draw us back to yourself this Maundy Thursday through your love, your service, your Spirit. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon
Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.
Congregation: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

*Choral Response to the Assurance of Pardon
Ubi Caritas Michael John Trotta
God is where charity and love are; The love of Christ has gathered us together into one. Let us rejoice and be glad in Him; Let us fear and love God, And let us love one another from a sincere heart.

The Word
Prayer for Illumination
First Reading (Unison): John 13:12-17
Second Reading: Mark 10:45

Meditation Dr. Sloan
“The Humiliation of Christ”

*Affirmation of Faith (The Confession of 1967)
We believe the Lord’s Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of men and women with God and with one another, in which they joyfully eat and drink together at the table of their Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinful people so that by participation in it they have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as they eat the bread and share the cup, they receive from the risen and living Lord the benefits of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord’s Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called them. Amen.

Hymn of Preparation #518 *Your Only Son* LAMB OF GOD

The Lord’s Supper
The Invitation
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer
Leader: The Lord be with you
People: **And also with you**
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up unto The Lord.**
Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
The Words of Institution
The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup (Intinction)

Choral Meditation
Stay With Us Egil Hovland
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us. Stay with us, it soon is evening and night is falling. Jesus Christ, the world’s true light! Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it! Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening. Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling. Let your light pierce the darkness and fill your church with its glory.

The Prayer After Communion

Departing into the World
*Closing Hymn #220 *Go to Dark Gethsemane* REDHEAD 76

Benediction

Postlude
Ah, Holy Jesus Johannes Brahms

You are invited to remain in the Sanctuary for prayer and meditation as long as you desire. When you leave, please do so in silence to allow others the opportunity for quiet prayer.

*Those who are able, please stand.