

# *The First Presbyterian Church* *in the City of New York*

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## MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 1, 2021 | 7:00 p.m.

*The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.*

## GATHERING

*This evening the peace candle represents the peace of Christ, sent by God, to heal our broken world. As the stripping of the sanctuary concludes, this candle will be extinguished to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming passion.*

## PRELUDE

“Song of Peace”

Jean Langlais

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness, Op. 122, No. 5” Johannes Brahms

## WELCOME

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**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 833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

ST. MARGARET

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

### MEDITATION

"Our Present Hour"

Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### ANTHEM

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.  
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
Amen.*

Maurice Duruflé  
Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Christ's love has gathered us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.  
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.  
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.  
Amen.

—Liturgy for Maundy Thursday

The First Church Choir

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the broken-hearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe in the gospel.**

from A Brief Statement of Faith

### OFFERTORY

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beautiful feet which brought from Heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, His mercy to entreat; to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears; nor let His eye see sin, but through my tears.

Orlando Gibbons

—Phineas Fletcher

Samantha Noonan, Elizabeth Picker,  
Brandon Hynum, and Andrew Martens

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### HYMN 202

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

O WALY WALY

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of the Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

### STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR: PSALM 22

Plainsong, Tone VI

*As the Psalm is chanted, the linens and paraments are removed from the Chancel in preparation for worship on Good Friday.*

Our worship continues tomorrow at 7:00 p.m.  
Good Friday Tenebrae with the Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross

## STAFF CONTACTS

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