

# *The Service of Worship For Maundy Thursday*

Croatan Presbyterian Church

March 28, 2018

**Collect for Maundy Thursday:** *Deliverer of Israel, join us to your holy people of old who in the Passover praised you as their Liberator. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, therefore, O Lord, let us keep the feast in sincerity and truth, welcoming your kingdom with joy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## **The Gathering of God's People**

### **Prelude**

### **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Minister: *We gather in the name of Jesus Christ. Once upon a time in a land far away a boy child was born to Jewish parents. It had been revealed that this one was God's chosen one for the sake of the world. His story is our portal into the mind and purposes of God. The setting for the latter days of this story center around that special night before the arrest of Jesus. So we gather on this Maundy Thursday night to remember that time so long ago, to worship once again gathered around his table and to go forth in faith.*

### **The Story Whereby God Claims Us.**

The First Reading: Matthew 26:1-11

Sharon Propst

Choral Hymn (No. 310)

**"Lead Me To Calvary"**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** (unison) *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. As we gather, we gather in thanksgiving for the gift of life provided for us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Second Reading: Matthew 26:14-25

Sharon Propst

\*Hymn No. 311

**"Hallelujah, What A Savior!"**

The Third Reading: Matthew 26:26-35

Phil Lassiter

**Call To Confession** (Leader): *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.*

**Prayer of Confession** (Unison): *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 often fail to bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but there are times when we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. Lead us once again to your table and unite us in Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. Amen.*

**Assurance of Pardon** (Leader): *The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting; I declare to us, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people. May the God of mercy, who forgives us in all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.*

Hymn No. 328 (seated) – **"In The Cross of Christ I Glory"**

The Fourth Reading: Matthew 26:36-46

Phil Lassiter

Choral Hymn

**"Go To Dark Gethsemane"**

The Fifth Reading: Matthew 27:27-44

Dare Oliver

### **The Drama of Salvation**

**Leader:** *When the world could wait not longer*

**Women:** **The carpenters took up their tools.**

**Men:** **God's Son was made a cross,**

**Women:** **Fashioned from wood and skill of human hands.**

**Men:** **Fashioned from hate and will of human minds.**

**Leader:** *He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.*

**All:** **For us he was grieved.**

**Leader:** *He was summoned to the judgment hall, an enemy of the state, a danger to religion.*

**All:** **By us he was judged.**

**Leader:** *He was lashed with tongues and scourged with thongs.*

**All:** **By his stripes we are healed.**

**Leader:** *He was nailed to the cross by human hands.*

**All:** **Bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh.**

**Leader:** *He died declaring God's forgiveness. He rose on the third day, making it real. He ascended into heaven, that he might be everywhere on earth. He sent the Holy Spirit as the seal of the intention. He set before us bread and wine and invites us to his table. This is the place where all will be well again.*

**All:** **And all will be made well.**

**Leader:** *For God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world*

**All:** **But that the world through him might be saved.**

The Sixth Reading: Matthew 27:27-44

Minister

Meditation: “**An Unlikely Story**”

Hymn No. 320 (seated) (vss. 1,4)

**“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”**

### **The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer (unison)

Words of Institution and Distribution of the Elements (By Intinction)

### Affirmation of Faith

Minister: *He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and we hide, as it were, our faces from him; he was despised, and we did not esteem him.*

**People: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.**

Minister: *But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for the sake of our peace was upon him, and by his stripes we are healed.*

**People: 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.** (From Isaiah 53:3-5)

\*Hymn No. 319

**“Near The Cross”**

### **The Draping of the Cross In Black**

Charge: Jesus said: *If then, your Lord and Teacher, has washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.*

Those who wish special prayers with the Elders and the Laying on of Hands are asked to come to the front following the service.