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## **Hope Community Church**

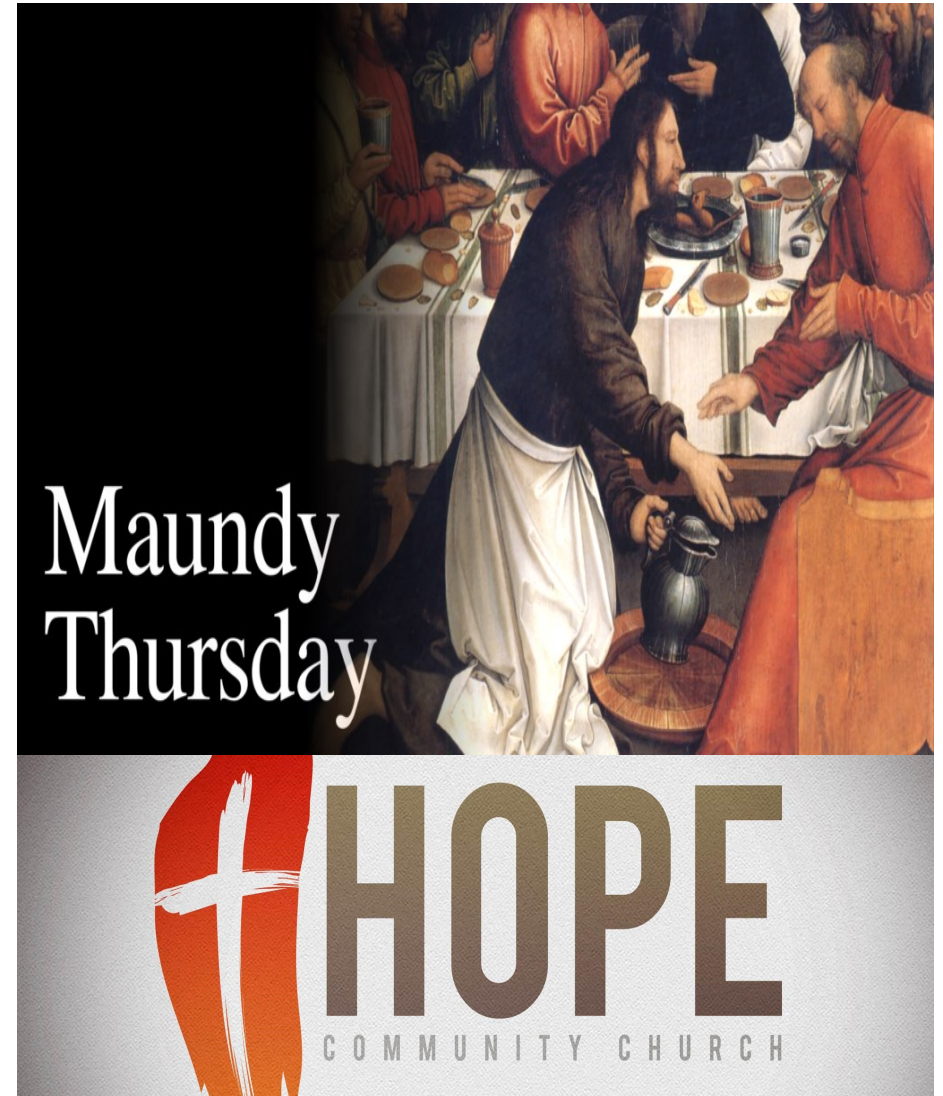
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## **Vision Statement**

**"HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH IS A PLACE WHERE ALL  
PEOPLE ARE INVITED TO BELIEVE, BELONG, AND  
BECOME IN JESUS CHRIST."**

# W E L C O M E ! MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 P.M. WORSHIP AT HCC

March 28, 2024

**"May We Together with All God's People Grasp How Wide, Long, High and Deep Is the Love of Christ!" (Ephesians 3:18)**

## **Why Worship on Maundy Thursday?**

On Maundy Thursday the church remembers the last evening Jesus shared with his disciples in the upper room before his arrest and crucifixion. Maundy Thursday marks three key events in Jesus' last week: his washing of his disciples' feet, his institution of the Lord's Supper, and his new commandment to love one another. This service begins the *Triduum*, the three-day period from sunset on Thursday to sunset on Easter Day. The name "Maundy Thursday" comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, referring to the "new commandment" Jesus taught his disciples (John 13:34). In other words, this is "new commandment Thursday." Maundy Thursday worship naturally features the Lord's Supper and, in some traditions, an act of foot washing or another sign of mutual love and dedication. Celebrations of the Lord's Supper can call attention to Christ's call to love one another by serving one another as well as Christ's invitation to live in hopeful anticipation of the final coming of the Kingdom of God when Christ returns.

## **Prelude and Gathering**

### **Welcome, Announcements and The Greeting of Peace**

**L:** Hear the teaching of Christ: A new commandment I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C:** And also with you. (Turn and greet and welcome one another)

### **Preparation for and Call to Worship**

**L:** God of love, as we prepare to remember the events of this night long ago in the Upper Room,

**C:** Open our eyes to see the beauty of Jesus' self-giving love, and by your Spirit work in our community a desire and commitment to serve each other and our hurting world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Sending Blessing**

Friends, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

**\*\*\*The Scriptures tell us that when Jesus and His Disciples finished their Celebration they left singing a hymn and they headed for The Mount of Olives and The Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus would be betrayed by Judas and arrested. We join together in our closing hymn as we continue the journey of Lent with Good Friday tomorrow night and Easter Sunday.**



**\*Join us for worship tomorrow at our Good Friday Service at 6:30 p.m.**

**\*Join us for *Easter Sunday Worship* at 10:00 a.m.  
Easter Breakfast will be served from 8:30am - 9:30am 4**

L: Why do we give thanks and praise before this table?

**All: We give thanks for God's work of creation, liberation, and salvation.**

L: It is indeed right, our duty and delight, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O holy Lord, eternal God. You created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them; you made us in our own image; and in countless ways you show us your mercy. Therefore, with choirs of angels and the whole company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, joining our voices in their unending praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

L: All glory and blessing are yours, O holy God, for in your mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ. He took our human nature and suffered death on the cross for our redemption. There he made a perfect sacrifice for the sins for the whole world. We praise you that before he suffered and died, our Savior gave us this holy sacrament and commanded us to continue it until he comes again.

**All: Why do we eat bread at this table?**

L: On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, 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."

**All: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?**

L: The same night Jesus took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

**All: What do we remember at this table?**

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

**C: On this day Christ gathered with his disciples in the upper room, took a towel and washed his disciples' feet, giving all of us an example that we should do to others as he has done to us.**

L: On this day Christ our God gave us this holy meal, that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim his holy sacrifice and be participants of his resurrection and at the last day may reign with him in his Kingdom that shall never end.

**Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Assurance of Pardon,  
Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer**

**Meditation:** "Pay Attention to the Details"

Rev. Dr. Bryan Burton

**Foot Washing:** Some Christian traditions regularly practice foot washing as a symbol of mutual love and dedication. Other congregations might consider a culturally sensitive form of foot washing on Maundy Thursday. The point of the celebration is to depict in a simple, memorable way the dramatic action of Jesus, to sense the power and beauty of seeing Christ's power expressed through service, and to practice the kind of self-giving love to which the entire Christian community is called.

**Unison Prayer:** May this symbolic act not only teach us but also form in us a deeper desire to follow Jesus, to embody his love, to practice his humility. Lord Jesus, teach us what it means to live as members of your body. Amen.

**The Lord's Table/Holy Communion:** *This model liturgy for the Lord's Supper features a structure similar to the traditional Jewish Passover celebration, in which a young child would ask the adults in the community about the meaning of the ritual action.*