

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 9, 2020  
St. Stephen Presbyterian Church  
Fort Worth, Texas

**Peal of the Tower Bells**

**Prelude:** *A Reflection on the Cross*

Heather Sorenson

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you should love one another.

**People:** Just as Christ has loved us, so we should love one another.

**Leader:** We worship the Lord.

**Hymn:** #727 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

THE SERVANT SONG

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Leader:** Beloved people of God: This is the day when Christ, our Passover Lamb, surrendered himself to those who would kill him, setting us free from sin and death forever. This is the day when Christ, our Teacher and Lord, knelt down to wash his disciples' feet, showing us how to love and serve one another. This is the day when Christ, the Bread of Heaven, shared a holy meal with his followers, offering a feast of abundant life and grace for us all.

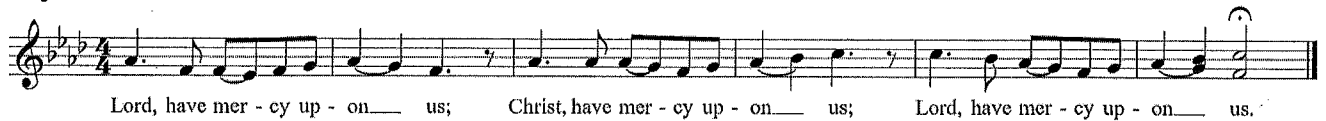
**All:** O God, your love is embodied in Jesus Christ, who washed disciples' feet on the night of his betrayal. Wash us from the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we will not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him always as Lord and Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prayer of 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 sins to God and to one another.

**All:** Eternal God, our judge and our redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Christ Jesus our Savior. ... *(Silent confession)*

## Kyrie



### Assurance of Pardon

**Leader:** Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

**All:** He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

**Leader:** In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Gloria Patri: #581** *Glory Be to the Father*

GREATOREX

**Prayer of Illumination**

Adelaide Leavens

**Gospel: John 13:3-15**

**Leader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon:** *“Washing Hands, Washing Feet”*

Rev. Dr. Fritz Ritsch, *Pastor*

### Silent Reflection

*“Truth, like gold, is to be obtained not by its growth, but by washing away from it all that is not gold.”* — Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910), Russian Novelist

**Hymn: #203** *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

CHEREPONI

### Profession of Faith *(In Unison):*

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 brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts,

forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

— From “A Brief Statement of Faith,” Presbyterian Church USA, 1991

## **Call to Discipleship**

**Offertory:** *Ubi Caritas*

Jacques Berthier

**Doxology:** #606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow*

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving** *(kneeling or bowing down)*

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give God thanks and praise. *(prayer continues)*

**Sanctus** #572 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

**Memorial Acclamation** #573

**Leader:** Great is the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

**Prayers of Intercession for the Church and the World**

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give God thanks and praise. *(prayer continues)*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven: Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our debts as we forgive  
our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Words of Institution and The Lord's Supper**

### **Communion Instructions:**

Following the Words of Institution, when the pastor says, "**The Gifts of God for the people of God.**", please partake of the communion by breaking off a piece of bread and dipping it into your cup.

*If you are celebrating with one another, and feel that it is safe, serve the elements to one another.*

When you offer or take the bread say: "**The bread of life.**"

When you take the cup say: "**The cup of salvation.**"

*After communion, please observe this moment of silence.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving for Communion**

**Leader:** Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**All:** And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

**Leader:** Bless the Lord, O my soul!

**All:** And forget not all God's benefits!

God of Grace, on the night he was betrayed, your Son Jesus Christ gave us this holy meal to symbolize the dreadful cost of salvation and as a sign and a seal that we are now eternally united to him, to you, and to one another. Keep us mindful of both the victory, and the cost; we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, our Passover sacrificed for us; and our living eternal Lord who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **The Betrayal of Our Lord Jesus Made Manifest**

**Leader:** Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and God has been glorified through him. But I tell you truly, one of you will betray me.

**All:** I would lay down my life for you!

**Leader:** Very truly, I tell you, one of you dining here tonight will betray me.

**All:** Lord?

**Leader:** Yes.

**All:** Is it I?

**Leader:** You have said. You have said.

**All:** And they all deserted him.

**Hymn: #228** *Were You There*

WERE YOU THERE

**The Stripping of the Chancel**

*Please observe one minute of silence.*



Rev. Dr. Fritz Ritsch, *Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Warner Bailey, *Parish Associate*

Jordan Smith, *Organist and Director of Music Ministries*

Chuck Shanlever, *Videographer*

# Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

## The Servant Song



1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me  
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -  
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the  
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you  
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall



be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the  
 geth - er on the road. We are here to help each  
 night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out  
 laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and  
 find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -



grace to let you be my ser - vant too.  
 oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.  
 to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
 sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
 geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.  
 (repeat stanza 1)

The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

## Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

# 203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Capo 3: (D) (A7)  
 Refrain F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F F/A Gm7 C7 F *Fine*

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)  
 F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm Gm7 C7 F *to Refrain*

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.  
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 feet; this is the way we should live like you.

Considering that this text comes from a part of the world where Christianity is not the primary religion gives these simple but powerful words even more depth and meaning. The tune name recalls the district in the Northern Region of Ghana where this tune was collected.



606

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise \*him, all crea-tures

here be-low; praise \*him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise

Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

\*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709  
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH  
LM

572

## Holy, Holy, Holy

G C D7 Em Am

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

Bm7 Em F Am Dsus D G C

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are

D7 G G7 Am G Cmaj7 G Dsus

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

D C Am7 D7 Em' C

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the

Am Dsus D7 G Em F Dm7 G

Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006  
 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

SANCTUS (Pavlechko)

SERVICE MUSIC

## Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen 573

G C D7 G Am7 Bm7 Em F D

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Thomas Pavlechko, 2006  
 Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (Pavlechko)

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you  
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you  
 4 Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine? (Were you  
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you

there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 there?) Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 there?) Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 there?) Were you there when the sun re-fused to shine?  
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)  
 there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)  
 there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)  
 there when the sun re-fused to shine? (Were you there?)  
 there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)