

**Columbia  
United Church  
Of Christ**

**April 9, 2020**

**7:00 Worship (using Zoom)**

**“Maundy Thursday”**

*This Service commemorates the Passover Meal shared by Jesus and his friends as they remembered God’s promises fulfilled in the Exodus of the Hebrew people; and contemplated the promises that were being fulfilled in Christ’s ministry and presence among them.*

Prelude	“One Bread, One Body”	Amy Crousore
Welcome and Greetings		Pastor Rick
Opening Hymn	“As We Gather At Your Table”	(insert)
Scripture Reading	John 12:1-8	Pete Jaberg

*Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”*

**Gathering Prayer**

**God of Passion and Praise, we gather here this evening with the cry of “Hosanna” still ringing in our ears from Sunday morning. As we gather we witness the faithful stewardship of Mary; who knew what was to come and expressed her faith in this extravagant way. Encourage us to be as extravagant in our faith, O God; that we may express our faith in ways that may not be practical by worldly standards but are exceedingly faithful by your standards. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.**

Guided Discussion	“Extravagant Faithfulness”	Pastor Rick
Reflection	“In This Very Room”	James Melton
Children’s Time	“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”	Pastor Rick

**I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
I have decided to follow Jesus;  
No turning back, no turning back.**

**The world behind me, the cross before me (3x)  
No turning back, no turning back.**

Scripture Reading

John 13:1-15

Brent Marcks

*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.*

Meditation Prayer

**God of Passion and Praise, you challenge us to be servants in your world, to wash the feet of your children. Help us to remember that your example of servant leadership was not conditional, based on race, status, ethnicity or economic worth; but open to all of God's children. Encourage us to be extravagant in our ways of serving, O God; that we may express our servant leadership in ways that may not be practical by worldly standards but are exceedingly faithful by your standards.**

Guided Discussion

"Extravagant Service"

Pastor Rick

Scripture Reading

John 13:31-35

James Melton

*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 Prayer

**God of love; on this evening you challenge us to love everyone, no matter what; just as you love us. Continue to encourage us, loving God, to open our hearts and tear down the barriers of prejudice that keep us from loving your children as you first loved us. Encourage us to be extravagant in our ways of loving, O God; that we may express our love in ways that may not be practical by worldly standards but are exceedingly loving by your standards.**

Reflection

"By Our Love"

Kristin Veteto



*the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.*

Lindsey Oberle

*After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him.*

Benediction

Pastor Rick

Postlude:

“Gethsemane Improvisation”

Harry Beckett