

**Rangeley Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church**

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 2019

Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

"Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

This is a time for remembering the Last Supper. We are called to the table to celebrate with Jesus.

We have gathered to break bread together. We will lift up the cup of salvation.

This is the hour when we are recalled to the command: "You shall love one another, as I have loved you."

We remember the night on which he was betrayed...

HYMN #177 [PH] *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive us the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Set us free from a past that we cannot change, and open to us a future in

which we can be changed, through Jesus Christ the light of the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

WORDS OF INVITATION

TABLE GRACE: OUR 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. 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

PRAYING FOR THE SPIRIT

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: *Psalm 116 (read responsively)*

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

The LORD protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar."

What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

UNISON PRAYER

Most gracious God, look with mercy upon your family gathered here for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was betrayed, given into sinful hands, and suffered death upon the cross. Strengthen our faith and draw us close to him as we enter the way of his passion; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

1. THE SHADOW OF BETRAYAL

Matthew 26:20-25

2. THE SHADOW OF DESERTION

Matthew 26:31-35

3. THE SHADOW OF THE UNSHARED VIGIL

Mark 14:32-41

Sung response: (PH #158, 1st verse) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

4. THE SHADOW OF ACCUSATION

Mark14:43-65

Sung response: (PH #158, 2nd verse) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

5. THE SHADOW OF CRUCIFIXION

Matthew 27:27-38

Sung response: (PH #158, 3rd verse) *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

6. THE SHADOW OF DEATH

Luke 23:44-49

Sung response: (PH #179, 1st verse)

Were You There?

7. THE SHADOW OF THE TOMB

John 19:38-42

Sung response: (PH #179, 3rd verse)

Were You There?

THE CLOSING OF THE BOOK: A loud sound, signifying the sealing of the tomb

PROCESSION TO THE SANCTUARY

THE DRAPING OF THE CROSS

DEPARTURE IN SILENCE INTO THE NIGHT