

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Holy Thursday | Service of Communion
April 14, 2022

SILENCE AND REFLECTION

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Rev. Paul Ashby

CALL TO WORSHIP The Gathering of the Disciples – Walking with Jesus Through Holy Week

Where shall we go to find community, love and acceptance?

We come to the upper room to gather around the table prepared for Jesus' disciples.

On this holy night, with shadows falling upon Jesus, we come to celebrate the gift of his life.

As we taste the bread, let us remember how Jesus shared with the poor and the hungry.

We honor the way of faithful service that was revealed in the life of Jesus.

We share in the cup of Christ to remember his unconditional love.

READINGS 1 – 3

Mark 11:15-19 | Mark 11:27-33 | Mark 12:13-17

HYMN NCH 218

Ah, Holy Jesus

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!

READINGS 4 – 6

Mark 12:28-34 | Mark 12:41-44 | Mark 14:1-11

HYMN NCH 222

My Song is Love Unknown

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
O, who am I, that for my sake my God should take frail flesh and die?
My God should take frail flesh and die?

What has my Sovereign done? What makes this rage and spite?
Christ gave new strength to run, restored the gift of sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst Christ rise;
themselves displease and 'gainst Christ rise.

READING 7

Mark 14:16-26

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

READINGS 8 & 9

Mark 14:27-31 | Mark 14:32-42

THE MESSAGE

Paul

HYMN NCH 223

What Wondrous Love is This?

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that Christ should come in bliss
to bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the heavy cross for my soul!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

READINGS 10 – 12

Mark 14:43-50 | Mark 14:53-65 | Mark 14:66-72

MEDITATIVE SILENCE FOR 2 MINUTES

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL WITHOUT CONVERSATION OR GREETING

Acknowledgements

Unless otherwise noted, music streamed with permission, OneLicense A-709231.

- ◇ *Ah, Holy Jesus*, Tune: *Herzliebster Jesu*, Johann Crüger, 1640. Words: Johann Heermann, 1630. Paraphr. by Robert Bridges, 1899; alt. public domain.
- ◇ *My Song is Love Unknown*. Tune: *Rhosymedre*, John D. Edwards, c. 1840. Text: Samuel Crossman, 1664, alt.
- ◇ *What Wondrous Love is This?* Tune: *Wondrous Love*, Southern Harmony, c. 1843. Harm © 1993, Pilgrim Press. OneLicense #18970. Text: United States, alt. First published in *Mercer's Cluster*, 1836.

Many thanks to this evening's readers ...