Maundy Thursday

A service of Communion & Foot and Hand Washing

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings – March 28, 2024 7pm

PRELUDE "Wondrous Love" *arr. David N. Johnson*
Linda Vollweiler, organ
(The prelude is an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Stay with Me"

*CALL TO WORSHIP Greg Allen-Pickett and Damen Jensen-Heitmann

This is a day of remembrance for us.
We call on the name of the Lord.
Throughout the generations, we have received gifts of grace and love, even when we didn't deserve them. We are called to pass those gifts on to others, even when they have hurt us. Tonight, we take up the water for washing and the towel of service.
Tonight, we take the bread of his body and the cup of the new covenant, proclaiming the Lord's death until he comes again.
In the growing darkness, we gather. Our Lenten journey has brought us here. Jesus, our Teacher and our Lord, sets before us these tangible signs of love: a towel, a basin, bread, a cup.
Jesus gives us an example and a commandment ever new: to love one another as he has loved us. This is how everyone will know that we are his disciples, when we love one another.

*HYMN "Where Charity and Love Prevail" 316

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you have called us to serve one another as Christ has served us. We confess that we have not followed Christ's example as fully or as often as we should. We turn away from people in need. True humility eludes us, and we hide our own vulnerability before others. You have commanded us to love one another as Christ loved us. We confess that we do not love so generously. Gathered on this Holy Thursday, we confess that we are capable of denying and betraying you and one another, no less than the first disciples. Forgive us, merciful God, and cleanse us of all our sin; then guide our feet to walk with you always. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Having loved us who were in the world
Jesus loved us to the end.
Jesus knows us fully and still offers love and forgiveness unconditionally;
In gratitude for the grace given to us and as witness to our faith in Christ, we will love one another.
By the grace of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved. Now love one another with that same love.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that we may see the light of your Word in the darkness of our lives. In seeing, may we understand; in understanding, may we do all that you command of us. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST READING – Mark 14:10-24

ANTHEM "Adoramus te, Christe" *Eric Barnum*

Adoramus Te, Christe,	We adore Thee, O Christ,
et benedicimus tibi,	and we bless Thee,
quia per sanctam crucem tuam	who by Thy Holy Cross
redemisti mundum.	hast redeemed the world.
Qui passus es pro nobis,	Thou, who hast suffered death for us,
Domine, Domine, miserere nobis.	O Lord, O Lord, have mercy on us.

SECOND READING – Selections of John 13

SERMON ***"Loving Jesus or Loving Like Jesus?"*** Greg Allen-Pickett

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you!
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord!
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

FOOT and HAND WASHING

If you come forward for the foot washing, leave your shoes and socks behind, walk forward, and line up at the basin to your right in front of the cross. The person in front of you will take a seat at the basin. Extend one foot and then the other over the basin while the person who is washing pours water over your feet. The one who is washing will dry your feet with a fresh towel. Hold and help support the person's foot over the basin of water. Pour the water slowly and prayerfully over one foot, then the other; dry the person's feet gently. You may wish to say "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news" (Romans 10).

If you come forward for the hand washing, line up at the basin to your left in front of the piano. The person in front of you will hold their hands over the basin and you will pour water over their hands and then take fresh towel and dry their hands. You may wish to say "May God prosper the work of your hands for kindness" (Psalm 90).

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT FOR HAND AND FOOT WASHING

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving, listening God, ever-attentive to the voices of those in need, we call on your name so that we might live. Now hear our prayer:
For the church that bears Christ's name, that the world may know we are his disciples by the love that we have for one another. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
For leaders of nations and all persons in positions of authority, that their lives may be marked by Christ-like service and love. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
For all who are oppressed and living in captivity, that they may escape from evil and death to find the land of freedom you have promised. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
For those who are hungry and thirsty this day and for those who have too much, that we may learn to share your generous gifts, O God. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
For those who are dealing with illness, loss or facing death, that the presence of Christ may bless and keep them. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
At this time, I invite you to speak your prayers aloud. As each person finishes I will say "Lord, in your mercy," and we will all respond: Hear our prayer.

Answer us in the day of trouble, O God, so that we may lift up the cup of salvation in the presence of your people, giving thanks for all your goodness to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HYMN "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare" 202

STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH
While the final hymn is sung, communion elements, linens, banners, and other symbols are removed from the sanctuary. The congregation is invited to think of Jesus, who on the night of his betrayal laid aside his woven tunic and tied a towel around his waist. He removed his outer garment for service. The Gospel tells us that later "they stripped him" for mockery and death. The act of stripping the church reflects the last few days of Jesus' life. It also stands for those from whom something or someone is being taken away. It stands for us and our journey with Christ on this Holy Week.

All are invited to depart in silence.

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS HOLY WEEK

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE MARCH 29 at 7PM

EASTER VIGIL IN THE CHAPEL OR AT HOME
FRIDAY AT 8PM TO SUNDAY AT 8AM
SIGN UP AT THIS LINK: https://bit.ly/FPCVigil

EASTER MORNING, SUNDAY, MARCH 31:
8:30 and 10:30AM – TRADITIONAL SERVICE
CHOIR, BELLS, BRASS ENSEMBLE, ORGAN AND
"HALLELUJAH CHORUS" FROM HANDEL'S *MESSIAH*