



Maundy Thursday

A service of table fellowship and Communion

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings - April 2, 2026, 6pm

PRELUDE

“It is Well with My Soul”

Michael T. Smith

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

(The prelude is an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

Tonight, we will gather in an ancient way. The earliest gatherings of Christ’s church were meals that came together with whoever was present. Christ’s love and grace are made known to us in the sharing of table fellowship, from Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana to the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 with loaves and fishes, to the Last Supper that we will reflect on tonight. Find your seat at a table and join us to reflect.

WELCOME

INTROIT

“The Lord is Calling”

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

CALL TO WORSHIP

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 through the sharing of table fellowship.

Tonight, we will break bread with one another, sharing table fellowship and taking the bread of life 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 grace and love: a meal shared among friends, bread broken, a cup poured.

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.

FIRST READING

John 13:1-17

HYMN

“Very Truly”

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

SECOND READING & REFLECTION

John 13:21-38

TABLE FELLOWSHIP Share the meat, cheese, and crackers with each other. Serve each other sparkling grape juice or water and reflect together on these questions:

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION *What would being one of the disciples at that table have been like? What questions would you have asked? What is the role of hospitality in our faith?*

Jesus knew Judas would betray him but included him at the table like everyone else. How do you think you would have felt eating dinner with Judas that night?

HYMN

“Your Love, O God”

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

THIRD READING

John 15:12-15

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.

Why do we give thanks and praise before this table?

We give thanks and praise for God’s work of creation, liberation, and salvation.

It is right to give praise. It is our duty and delight! God created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. God made us in God’s image and in countless ways has shown us mercy.

God freed all of us from slavery and sin and claimed us as God’s own people, making a covenant with us. God feeds us with manna in the wilderness of our lives and leads us to a land flowing with milk and honey.

When we had forgotten God’s covenant, God sent us prophets to remind us, and when the time was right, God came to the world to be with us and love us.

All glory and blessing belong to God, for God sent us Jesus, who humbled himself, becoming human. He even suffered death. His death opened up new life for us.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit, unite us with the living Christ and with all who seek to follow him, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ’s body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

Why do we eat this bread?

On the night before Jesus died, he took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

(You are invited to serve one another the bread. As you pass the plate of bread to the person next to you, please say, "This is the body of Christ, broken for you.")

Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

The same night, Jesus took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood for you, shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

(You are invited to serve one another the cup. As you pass the tray of cups to the person next to you, please say, "This is the blood of Christ, poured out for you.")

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of grace, we give you thanks for the feast of redemption we have shared in the body and blood of our Savior. As you have nourished us with love, let our lives proclaim your great love for the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

"The Truth I'm Searching For"

Hannah Jensen-Heitmann

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 the cup of salvation in the presence of your people, giving thanks for all your goodness to us, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ANTHEM "Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs" *from Handel's Messiah*
Chancel Choir, director Miggi Angangco, Linda Vollweiler, Accompanist

"Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows!
He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
the chastisement of our peace was upon Him."

All are invited to depart in silence.

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS HOLY WEEK

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE APRIL 3 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/ChapelVigil>

EASTER MORNING, SUNDAY, APRIL 5:
8:30 and 10:30AM – TRADITIONAL SERVICE
CHOIR, BRASS ENSEMBLE, ORGAN AND
"HALLELUJAH CHORUS" FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH



The Lord Is Calling

Musical notation for the first two lines of the song. The first line is in 4/4 time and the second line is in 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

Lis - ten, for the Lord is call - ing you a - new to
 move with ho - ly hands and feet in all you do.

Very Truly

Musical notation for the first two lines of the song. The first line is in 6/8 time and the second line is in 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, and A-flat).

1. Ve - ry tru - ly, I say un - to you, love means
 2. Ve - ry tru - ly, I say un - to you, serve those
 3. Ve - ry tru - ly, I say un - to you, none is
 4. Ve - ry tru - ly, I say un - to you, care for

lov - ing all who move through the world as you do.
 long - ing for the sus - ten - ance to get them through.
 grea - ter. We all breathe, laugh and cry the same, too.
 ot - thers. You'll be blessed by the car - ing you do.

This I know is true.
 This I know is true.
 This I know is true.
 This I know is true.

Your Love, Oh God

Your love, oh God is a won-drous love, a love to keep me strong. Your love, oh God is a
 last-ing love, for - ev - er I be - long. I thank you for for - give - ness, that my sins are not bound to
 me. I thank you for as - sur - ance of the love you have for me. Your love, oh God is a
 self-less love, a love I don't de - serve. Your love, oh God is a hope-ful love, and ho - ly is your
 word. I thank you for for - give - ness, that my sins are not bound to me. I
 thank you for as - sur - ance of the love you have for me.

The Truth I'm Searching For

1. Who holds the truth — I'm search - ing for? When will the qui - et dim the
 2. Where has the time — gone that I've spent list - en - ing to — the loud - est
 3. Oh Lord, I pray — that I may be for - ev - er ground - ed in your
 noise? Where is the path — that leads to
 voice? How do I know — if where I
 love, and by your grace — I hear and
 more for - ev - er peace, — hope, love and joy?
 went re - flects a true — and ho - ly choice?
 see al - ways the tru - est voice is love.