

**Maundy Thursday Worship
April 17, 2025**

WE GATHER

Introit and Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are gathered to recall the night when Jesus was betrayed. Are you ready to come to the feet of Christ, whose Life was poured out for you?

All: By the grace of God, we are.

Leader: Can you watch while Jesus prays in the garden?

All: By the grace of God, we can.

Leader: Will you follow Jesus, even into the night of betrayal?

All: By the grace of God, we will.

Leader: Then let us praise God, even in the hours of darkness.

All: God of all grace and steadfast love, greatly is your name to be praised in all the earth!

***Hymn of Praise** Make Me A Servant 2176

Prayer of the Day

WE PROCLAIM

Prayer for the Illumination of Scripture (in unison)

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. May we do all that you ask. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Psalm Reading

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (NRSV)

Gospel Reading

John 13:1-17; 31b-35 (NRSV)

WE RESPOND

Invitation to Foot Washing

The congregation is invited to come forward as you feel led. Please be seated at one of the three stations and remove your footwear. After your feet have been washed, you are invited to wash the next person's. If you wish to pass, then Pastor Nia or Pastor Brenda will step in. Foot washing involves pouring water on your sibling's feet and drying them with a towel.

***Hymn of Response**

Jesu, Jesu 432

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

9

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

895

Giving the Bread and Cup

Closing Prayer (in unison)

Eternal God, we thank you for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn of Sending Forth**

TFWS 2112

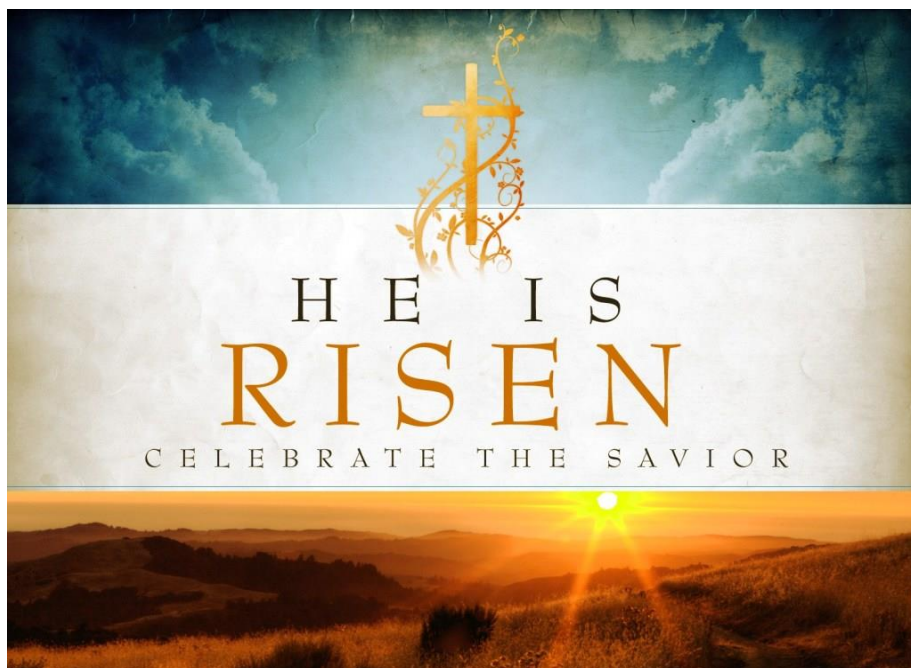
Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Gospel Reading

John 18:1-19:16a (NRSV)

All will be left bare on the altar to symbolize the humiliation and barrenness of the cross.

Depart in Silence



Eastern, Olivet & St. John UMCs
Pastors: Rev. Brenda Mcilwain & Rev. Chania Dillard
Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation



Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025
Welcome to Worship!

Tonight is Holy Thursday, otherwise known as Maundy Thursday. "Maundy" means "mandate," which refers to Jesus's command to his disciples the night before his death. In John's Gospel, Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another" (Jn. 13:34). His statement is an encapsulation of the Christian faith. We are created to love and be loved. Jesus not only speaks of love; he is love incarnate.

Jesus demonstrates his love by washing his disciples' feet and instituting the Lord's Supper. In other words, Jesus's love is experienced as he washes feet and serves a meal. No matter where we live or how we were raised, all human beings do the work of cleaning and feeding every day. How remarkable is it to see Jesus, Lord of the universe, love us in a way that quite literally stoops him down to our level? He humbles himself to a degree that the disciples find alarming. Tonight, we model after Christ by humbling ourselves in service to one another. As we approach Good Friday, Maundy Thursday helps us meditate on God's principal commandment. After all, love is a verb.

Going Forth Prayer: Lord, we thank you for your humility and sacrifice. Tonight, instill in us the desire to continue serving you. ***Amen.***

Friday April 18, 2025 @ 7pm
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
St. Paul UMC
11000 HG Trueman Road ~ Lusby, Maryland

April 20, 2025

RESURRECTION SUNDAY SERVICES

6:15 am - SUNRISE SERVICE @ The Drum Point Club
465 Overlook Drive ~ Lusby, Maryland

9:30am in the Sanctuary

Children' s **EASTER EGG HUNT** Immediately following Service

All services in the Olivet Sanctuary are available via Zoom.
ID: 216-168-3604, PW: 181188
Phone Zoom: Call 1-253-215-8782, Enter 216-168-3604#, PW:181188