

Maundy Thursday Service  
April 1, 2021

St. Andrew's United Church and  
congregations of Loggieville-Black River Pastoral Charge

Presiders: The Rev. David Allan &

The Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight

Organist: Mrs. Lois McKinnon

Musical Leaders: Elaine Dickson, Sally Donald, Marjorie  
Cassidy, Bill Gunn and Liz Desaulniers

Musical Prelude

Introit: Stay With Us (*choir*)

Gathering Words:

**ONE:** We come to worship this night, amid the restriction, isolation and disruption to our way of life, conscious of the burdens that covid-19 has laid on all of us.

**ALL:** In the depths of uncertainty and loss, we trust that God is with us.

**ONE:** Though sometimes we don't know quite where we are, or where we are headed, we come to the middle of this Holy Week seeking community and connection.

**ALL:** We gather, as those first disciples gathered with Jesus in an Upper Room, to celebrate the presence of Jesus in a great feast, and in the selfless act of washing the disciples' feet. Yet we also know that on this night we commemorate Jesus' arrest, and betrayal, and desertion by so many of his closest friends.

**ONE:** We begin in a spirit of joy and festivity, and yet the evening ends with us feeling emptied, gutted, and quite alone.

**ALL:** Yet we dare to hold all the aspects of this night in our time of worship – remembering that God is with us in all the seasons and turnings of life.

**ONE:** Come, friends, and let us worship God.

Prayer:

**Come to us, loving God, in this time of worship.**

**Comfort us as we float adrift, unsure, surrounded by fog.**

**Remind us that, as we feel lost and helpless in the storms of this week, still you are present with us through it all.**

2.

**And always, we worship you in the profound certainty that everything – everything – is always followed by resurrection. Amen.**

Hymn: #130 (*adapted*) An Upper Room Our Lord Prepared

**An upper room our Lord prepared for those he loved until the end:**

**And his disciples gathered there to celebrate their dearest friend.**

**A lasting gift he gave his own: to share his bread, his loving cup.**

**Whatever burdens bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.**

**In humbleness, he washed their feet, for service, too, is sacrament.**

**In Christ our joy is made complete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

**John 13:1–17, 31b–35 (as told by Peter) – Merle Milson**

**Meditation: Greatness Redefined**

*(written by Nigel Varndell, and published on the Sanctuary Centre website)*

Silent Reflection

Prayer:

**Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment: To love one another as he had loved them. By your Holy Spirit write this commandment on our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

\*Hymn: #593, Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (vs. 1,2,3)

Prayer of Intercession: *led by Donna Doak*

To the words ... Lord, in your mercy, please respond:  
**hear our prayer.**

3.

Sharing the Peace:

One: On the night he ate supper for the last time with his friends, Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you."

May the peace of Jesus, the Christ, be with you all.

**R: And also with you.**

**We Come to the Table**

What can we offer to God for all God's goodness to us in Jesus the Christ?

**We can meet around the table of holy communion and give thanks to God, for God's gift to us and to all people. In bread eaten and wine tasted, we remember God's chosen one.**

We thank you, God, that Jesus, though he had humble beginnings, was ready to face powerful challenges.

**We thank you, God, that Jesus overcame opposition from the powerful ones of his time, and was a healer of body, mind, and spirit.**

We thank you, God, that Jesus would not back down even though his uncompromising stance for justice led him to a cross.

**We thank you, God, that death was not the end for Jesus.**

**We thank you for his risen presence known in his time and recognized in the saints and lively faith communities of our time.**

We thank you, God, that from this table, we are served, **as preparation for serving others in our neighbourhood and our world. Amen**

Hymn: #471 (refrain) x2 – congregation seated

**Eat this bread and never hunger,  
drink this cup and never thirst;  
Christ invites us to the table  
where the last become the first.**

**Communion Prayer:** *(words adapted from a prayer by Rev. Richard Bott)*

When the time was right, O God, you sent Jesus to be among us.  
Born into this life,

4.

seeing Your grace revealed in all things,  
he laughed with those who laughed,  
and mourned with those who mourned.

Through Your love, he healed the sick,  
he welcomed the outcast,  
he challenged those in power,  
and the structures that kept them there.

**And he called us back to Your love.**

In the power of the Holy Spirit,  
the Christ laughs and cries,  
heals and welcomes,  
challenges and loves,  
again and again and again.

**We have been told that,  
on the night before he was taken  
to be tortured to death on a cross,  
Jesus sat with his disciples,  
and ate with them, in a meal of remembrance.**

Jesus took bread,  
asked Your blessing upon it, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples saying:

"Take this – all of you – and eat it.  
This is me. My Body. Given for you.  
Each time you eat it, remember me."

Close to the meal's end,  
he took a cup filled with wine,  
asked Your blessing upon it,  
and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take this – all of you – and drink it.  
This is me. This is my promise in my life's blood -  
poured out for you and for the world."  
Each time you drink it, remember me.

**So we, his disciples,  
eating bread and the fruit of the vine – remember.**

5.

Sharing of the Gifts

Post-Communion Reflection (*based on 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)

- *written by Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont*

We give thanks for all we have received at the table, Loving God;  
**here we experience the new covenant made possible in the life and death of Jesus.**

Go from here as a covenant people, and there will be no stopping you.

**We rejoice that we follow in the footsteps of the saints of yesterday and the saints of today who have kept the faith of Jesus Christ.**

Go from here as a covenant people and there will be no stopping you.

**We are aware that we have fallen short of the values Jesus showed in the stories he taught.**

Yet, you go from here as a covenant people, and there will be no stopping you.

**We are conscious of the faith community Jesus founded, and our opportunity now to shape and enrich its influence for good.**

You go from here as a covenant people, and there will be no stopping you.

**We are a people shaped at the table. Thanksgiving and service will be at the heart of all we do.**

Let us gather our prayers and praise into the prayer Jesus taught,  
**“Our Father...”**

L: When the supper was over, they sang a hymn and Jesus and his disciples went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to them, “All of you will run away and leave me, for the scripture says, ‘God will kill the shepherd, and the sheep will all be scattered.’ But after I am raised to life, I will go to Galilee ahead of you.” They came to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

**Choir:** Tis Midnight and On Olive’s Brow

6.

A Night Reflection – *Rev. David Allan, Cynthia Duplessie,  
John Harper*

\*Hymn: #182, Stay With Us

\*Blessing:

L: May hope be born within us this night, and faithfulness rise as we prepare for tomorrow. And may God the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be with us and remain with us forever.

**All: Amen.**

Musical Postlude

**Greeter: April 2<sup>nd</sup>** (Good Friday) – Jeannie Breau/**April 4<sup>th</sup>** – (Easter Sunday) – Liz Mullin

**Recorders: April 2<sup>nd</sup>** (Good Friday) – Janice Carter/**April 4<sup>th</sup>** (Easter Sunday) – Janice Carter

**Ushers: April 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Wayne Mullin/**April 4<sup>th</sup>** – Wayne Mullin

**Power Point: April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Good Friday)** – Juanita Hamilton/**April 4<sup>th</sup> (Easter)** – Juanita Hamilton

**Sound System: April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Good Friday)** – Ernie MacLean/**April 4<sup>th</sup> (Easter)** – Brian Savoy

**Offering Counters: April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Good Friday)** – Juanita Hamilton/**April 4 (Easter)** – Brian Savoy, Barry Campbell

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 7:00 p.m. – Good Friday Service

**April 4<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday:** (Choose one of two options)

**9:00 a.m.** More informal service downstairs in the Hall – with dramatic presentation and Communion. Limited to 30 people because of physical distancing requirements.

You must pre-register for this service.

**11:00 a.m.** Easter Sunday service with Communion.

You must pre-register for this service.