



A Table. A Basin.

Some Food. Some Friends.

A Service of Commission and Commitment

April 1, 2021 + 7 PM

*On **Maundy Thursday**, named for the command or “mandate” Jesus gave to the disciples to love one another, we gather to remember Jesus’ example of servanthood and to celebrate the Lord’s Supper. The worship service concludes with the ancient practice of stripping the altar table as a dramatic demonstration of Jesus’ abandonment during the events of this night and Good Friday. Our worship this evening begins a three-day continuous worship service called the Triduum, including Good Friday and concluding on the evening of Holy Saturday.*

Welcome to The United Methodist Church of Berea!

*As followers of Jesus Christ, who reveals a God whose love knows no boundaries, we are committed to welcoming and affirming every person as a beloved child of God. Every person—of every sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, economic status, health, ability, or any other identifying label—is welcome to participate fully in our ministries and life together as church. We hope The UMC of Berea will become a home for you, your family, and your friends as together, **we make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.***

Join us in worship, this week and every week:

Sunday at 11AM online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos) and in the Sanctuary

Monday—Friday at 9AM (Morning Prayer) via Zoom (meeting id: 518 014 483)

Wednesday at 7PM (Evening Prayer) via Zoom (meeting id: 848 4741 1964; passcode: 195510)

In preparation for worship, you are encouraged to light a candle as a reminder of God's presence.

We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

What Wondrous Love is This

arr. David N. Johnson

Words of Welcome

Opening Prayer

God who is Love, you call us to the feast, welcoming us to your table of grace.

*Loving Christ, you call us to join you in love and service,
commanding us to wash each other's feet.*

*Beloved Spirit, you show us how to love one another,
liberating those held in bondage*

and continuing to listen to the cries of all who live in pain or fear.

Through our worship and in our living,

offer us the bread of life and cup of salvation.

*Help us to remember—through our thoughts and words, through our actions and service—
that you give us the courage to live as your servants,*

loving the world as you love us all,

pouring out our lives as members of the body of Christ.

Amen.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

UMH 292

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 caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

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 caused the Lord of life to lay aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul, to lay aside his crown for my soul.*

*To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme
I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme I will sing.*

*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.

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We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place, let us listen for the word of God among us.

People: *Our ears and hearts are open.*

First Lesson—John 13.1-7, 12-16, 34-35 (CEB)

¹ Before the Festival of Passover, Jesus knew that his time had come to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them fully.

²Jesus and his disciples were sharing the evening meal. The devil had already provoked Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew the Father had given everything into his hands and that he had come from God and was returning to God. ⁴So he got up from the table and took off his robes. Picking up a linen towel, he tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he was wearing. ⁶When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus replied, "You don't understand what I'm doing now, but you will understand later."...

¹²After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? ¹³You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. ¹⁴If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. ¹⁵I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. ¹⁶I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them....

³⁴"I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. ³⁵This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Hymn

Live in Charity (Ubi Caritas)

TFWS 2179

Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

Ubi Caritas/Live in Charity / Jacques Berthier / 1979 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.

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Meditation

Second Lesson—Mark 14.12-25 (CEB)

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, the disciples said to Jesus, "Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover meal?"

¹³He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city. A man carrying a water jar will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The teacher asks, "Where is my guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?" ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs already furnished. Prepare for us there." ¹⁶The disciples left, came into the city, found everything just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

¹⁷That evening, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸During the meal, Jesus said, "I assure you that one of you will betray me—someone eating with me."

¹⁹Deeply saddened, they asked him, one by one, "It's not me, is it?"

²⁰Jesus answered, "It's one of the Twelve, one who is dipping bread with me into this bowl. ²¹The Son of Man goes to his death just as it is written about him. But how terrible it is for that person who betrays the Son of Man! It would have been better for him if he had never been born."

²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³He took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵I assure you that I won't drink wine again until that day when I drink it in a new way in God's kingdom."

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Prayer of Preparation and Words of Assurance

*Wellspring of Love, Source of Compassion, Teacher of Truth,
you call us to wash the feet of others as you have washed ours,
yet we are often unwilling to kneel at the feet of our friends, much less our enemies,
preferring to be served and to do for ourselves
rather than to serve and to die for others.*

*You invite us to join all of creation at your feast,
yet we are often unwilling to make room at the table
for those we do not know or who seem somehow unlike us.*

*You pour yourself out for the sake of the whole world,
yet we are often unwilling to let go of our selfish desires.*

*Forgive us and free us from our unwillingness to find our true life as the body of Christ—
a body broken and given for the healing of the world. Amen.*

(silent prayers of confession)

As we acknowledge our self-centered ways, God forgives us and heals us,
re-centering us in the One who is our beginning and our end.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

In one Spirit, we are baptized into one body.

Then let us pursue the things that make for peace.

The peace of Christ be with you, now and always. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

Some of us may be experiencing financial hardship or uncertainty during this season, but our generosity through the life of the church remains crucial as an expression of our discipleship and to ensuring that we can maintain our commitments to mission and ministry during this uncertain time. If you already give financially online (www.umcb.org/donate) or by mailing a check to the church office, thank you! If you do not do so already, please consider giving through one of these methods now as we continue to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Hymn

Remember

***You broke the bread and blessed the cup, you served a sacrifice of love.
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see the glory of all that you are, and all that you've done.
Jesus the Lamb of God, oh what a Savior. You took the altar and made it a table.
Nothing can separate what you bring together. Now and forever I will remember.***

How beautiful the mystery, Christ, my hope alive in me.

***Worthy, worthy, worthy. I'm caught up in the glory of all that you are, and all that you've done.
Jesus the Lamb of God, oh what a Savior. You took the altar and made it a table.
Nothing can separate what you bring together. Now and forever I will remember.***

Don't let me stay the same; only your love can change me.

Don't let me stay the same; only your love can change me.

***Jesus the Lamb of God, oh what a Savior. You took the altar and made it a table.
Nothing can separate what you bring together. Now and forever I will remember.***

Taking time to remember. Oh, how I need the Savior.

What was broken and severed, it will come back together, as I remember you. I will remember you.

Remember / Steffany Gretzinger, Matt Maher, Ran Jackson / 2020 Be Essential Songs

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The 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.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

From the earth you bring forth bread and create the fruit of the vine.

You form us in your image, deliver us from all those powers that hold us captive, and make covenant to be our sovereign God.

You feed us manna in the wilderness and give grapes as evidence of your generosity.

And so, with your people on earth and all the communion of your saints, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Word made flesh in Jesus Christ.

Giving himself away completely, Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick,

ate with the scorned and forgotten, washed the disciples' feet,

and gave us this holy meal as a sign of your enduring presence.

By the baptism of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, you give birth to your church, deliver us from slavery to sin and death,

and make with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night we betrayed him, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to the disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together (v. 1)

UMH 618

Let us break bread together on our knees, let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, again gave thanks to you, gave it to the disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant.

Do this in remembrance of me."

Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together (v. 2)

UMH 618

Let us drink wine together on our knees, let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

In remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving,

as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,

that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by your great love.

As the grain and grapes, once dispersed in the fields, are now united in bread and wine,

so may we and all creation be gathered from every time and place

into the unity of your eternal household where we all will feast together at your table.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together (v. 3)

UMH 618

*Let us praise God together on our knees, let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Hymns

One Bread, One Body

UMH 620

Eat This Bread

UMH 628

Prayer following Communion

Thank you, God, for uniting us with your love in this holy mystery.

We are no longer our own, but completely yours.

Send us now, and put us to leading and serving—loving all as you have loved us. Amen.

Third Lesson—Mark 14.26-31

After singing songs of praise, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus said to them, "You will all falter in your faithfulness to me. It is written, *I will hit the shepherd, and the sheep will go off in all directions.* But after I'm raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

Peter said to him, "Even if everyone else stumbles, I won't."

But Jesus said to him, "I assure you that on this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times."

But Peter insisted, "If I must die alongside you, I won't deny you." And they all said the same thing.

Stripping the Altar

***Our worship continues tomorrow, on Good Friday,
with two online worship opportunities....***



Good Friday (April 2): *two pre-recorded worship services* will be available online, any time at or after Noon—

Berea Community Crosswalk and Worship
(www.facebook.com/BereaAreaChurches/live)

East Ohio Black Pastors' Fellowship—Seven Last Words of Jesus
(www.cotsumc.org/live)



Holy Saturday (April 3): *6PM worship*, online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/live) and in the Sanctuary (limited to 25 households, masks and physical distancing required)

Easter Vigil (April 3 – April 4): *wait and pray* in the Sanctuary from 7PM on Saturday until 7AM on Sunday—sign up for a half-hour time slot at <http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources/>.



Easter Sunday (April 4):

7AM Sunrise Service on the north lawn (masks and physical distancing required; bring a lawn chair and join us at the north end of the building as we welcome the Risen Christ along with the rising sun)

11AM worship, online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/live)

Bulletins and prior services can be found at <http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources/>.