

Maundy Thursday 2008—Order of Worship

As they will be greeted by two deacons: one who will pour water over their hands and say a blessing, another who will dry their hands with a towel and also say a blessing. Those who do not wish to receive the washing of hands may simply go to a seat and wait, while music is played softly in the background until everyone has entered.

Words of Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn #142 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded (Verse One)

*O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, Thine only crown:
O sacred Head, what glory, What bliss till now was Thine!
Yet, though despised and glory, I joy to call Thee mine.*

The Anointing of Jesus

Matthew 26:1-16

Symbol: Broken Jar

Hymn: #139 What Wondrous Love is This (Verse One)

*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.*

The Passover Meal

Matthew 26:17-35

Symbol: The Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(we will pass around a chalice and bread in the method of intinction, and sing the following song)

Taize Song: “Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup”

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never be hungry
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.*

The Garden

Matthew 26:36-46

Symbol: Prayer Shawl

Taize Song: “Stay Here And Keep Watch With Me”

*Stay here and keep watch with me. The hour has come.
Stay here and keep watch with me. Watch and pray.*

The Betrayal

Matthew 26:47-56

Symbol: Money Bag

Hymn #531 Abide With Me (Verse One)

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

The Trial **Matthew 26:57-68**
Symbol: Blindfold

Hymn #531 Abide With Me (Verse Five)
*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.*

The Pain of Denial **Matthew 26:69- 27:5**
Symbol: The Rooster

Meditation

Hymn: #129 Were You There? (Verse One)
*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Jesus before Pilate **Matthew 27:11-26**
Symbol: The Bindings

Hymn #129 Were You There? (Verse Two)
*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

Death Sentence **Matthew 27:27-37**
Symbol: Crown of Thorns

(after this reading, in the background is the sound of nails pounding)

Hymn: #129 Were You There? (Verse Three)
*Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side?*

The Way of the Cross **Matthew 27:38-54**

Symbol: Wood

Hymn: #129 Were You There? (Verse Four)

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

The Tomb

Matthew 27:55-66

Symbol: Candle

(At the end of this reading, the Christ Candle will be extinguished. We will remain in darkness for a few minutes.)

Silent Reflection

The Lord's Prayer

(We will recite the prayer together. At the beginning of the Lord's Prayer, the Christ Candle will be relit.)

Taize Song: "Within Our Darkest Night"

(The choir will sing this simple refrain. Only the Christ candle will continue to be lit)

Within our darkest night, we kindle the fire that never dies away,

Never dies away,

Within our darkest night, we kindle the fire that never dies away,

Never dies away...

Benediction

Depart in Silence