

ORDER OF TENEBRAE

READINGS AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS

The Shadow of Betrayal (Matthew 26:20-25)

The Betrayer Revealed (John 13:26b-30)

The Shadow of Desertion (Matthew 26:31-35)

The Shadow of Pride (Luke 22:24-27)

The Agony of the Soul (Luke 22:39-44)

The Unshared Vigil (Mark 14:32-41)

“Father, the hour is come” (John 17:1-6)

“That they may be one” (John 17:15-22)

The Arrest in the Garden (John 18:1-5)

In the Shadow of a Kiss (Luke 22:47-48)

The Shadow of the Cross (Mark 15:16-20)

The Word was God (John 1:1-5)

Musical Response

“Were You There?”

Doug Hodgkins

ALL DEPART THE CHURCH IN SILENCE

We welcome you to Centre Congregational Church for this Maundy Thursday service. Our ushers this evening are Kathi Martin and Jeff Langill.



Maundy Thursday

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:00 pm

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come to God, who has loved us through Jesus Christ. Present yourselves to the Spirit who understands your need.

People: God has heard our voices and heeds our cries.

We will call upon God’s name as long as we live.

Leader: Come to prepare yourselves for the journey of faith. God sets before us a memorial feast.

People: We will pay our vows to God at the table of Christ. We will offer our sacrifices of thanksgiving.

Leader: Come to embrace the new covenant God offers. Eat and drink in remembrance of Jesus Christ.

All: We come to be washed and cleansed and healed. God will transform us now that we may love one another.

***HYMN** **“Lord Jesus Think on Me”** **(see insert)**

INVOCATION (*unison*)

Comforting God, as you sustained your Christ with food that does not perish, with power that needs no proof, and with the fullness of your realm that is not attained cheaply, so we ask that you may walk with us along our paths of temptation. Extend to us your hand of encouragement, your spirit of acceptance, and your vision of what is ethical and moral. Keep us from falling prey to those base yearnings and desires that distract us and offer nothing but emptiness. Enfold us with your comforting Spirit and feed us with the Bread of Life. Amen.

ANTHEM **“Lamb of God”** **Hayes**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: **Barbara Langill**
1Corinthians 11:23-26 **John 13:1-17, 31b-35**
(pew bible pp 1045-46) **(pew bible pp 981-82)**

MEDITATION **“Are You There?”** **Rev. Bentley**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Through the ages, you have called people to acknowledge and to celebrate your mighty deeds. You "passed over" the Israelites as a sign of your covenant and encouraged them and gave symbols of a new covenant to be remembered for all time. Generous God, we thank you for the reminders that call us to share as you have shared, to show compassion as you have shown compassion, to love as you have loved. As we eat the bread and drink from the cup of the Passover meal, remind us again of the unity that your meal brings, the commonality of human need, the vitality that is known from eating and drinking, and the service to others that survival demands. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Jesus prayed for God to forgive those who killed him. Hear then Christ's word of grace to us: “Your sins are forgiven.”

People: Thanks be to God.

ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER (*unison*)

Loving God, who gave all things into the hands of your Son, inspiring him to wash the feet of his disciples, draw us now into the story as participants, not as observers. Help us to recognize one another as sisters and brothers united in the Body of Christ for service to the world. As you love us into wholeness and joy, enable us to love others in ways that invoke their response to your love.

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER