

“Whoever you are...wherever you are on life’s journey,  
*you are welcome here.*”  
God is Still Speaking

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

*Ascension*

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

April 9, 2020    Maundy Thursday    7:30 PM



1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403  
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## Order of Worship

### PRELUDE

“At The Table of the Lord” (McWhorter)

### SENTENCES

*please rise*

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

**People: Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.**

### HYMN OF ADORATION

“Were You There” *Glory to God 228*

### COLLECT

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And with you also.**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Gracious God, you give us the sun to illumine the day and the moon and stars to shine by night. Kindle in us the flame of your love that our lives may shed abroad the radiance of your light and the world may be full of the splendor of your glory; through Jesus Christ, the Sn of Righteousness. Amen.**

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Siblings in the faith, we are called to be children of the day and not children of the night.

**People: Let us approach the throne of grace that we may receive mercy.**

*those who are able, please kneel*

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change, open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR MERCY

Leader: Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy Immortal One,

**All: have mercy upon us.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: This is the message we have heard from Christ and proclaim to you: God is light.

**People: If we walk in the light as Christ is in the light, we have communion with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us for all sin.**

# THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

## MEDITATION

### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All: (singing) Tune: Passion Chorale*

**O Jesus, we adore you, upon the cross, our King!**

**We bow our hearts before you,  
your gracious name we sing.**

**That name has brought salvation,  
that name in life our stay,  
Our peace, our consolation,  
when life shall fade away.**

**Yet still the world condemns you,  
still passing by the cross;**

**Lord, may our hearts retain you,  
all else we count but loss.**

**Ah, Lord, our sins arraigned you,  
and nailed you to the tree;**

**Our pride, our Lord disdained you,  
yet deign our hope to be.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**All: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who in self-sacrificing love  
poured out yourself on the cross for us,

**All: We offer you our worship and devotion.**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who in sin-conquering love  
opened to us the resurrection and the life,

**All: We offer you our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, who in world-redeeming love  
reigns over all and seeks in love to draw us and  
all people to yourself.

**All: We offer you our faith and service.**

**All: (singing) Tune: Passion Chorale**

**What language shall we borrow  
To thank you, dearest Friend,  
For all your dying sorrow, your pity without end?  
O, keep us near you ever, and should we perish too,  
Lord, let us never, never, outlive our love for you.**

Leader: With language borrowed only from angelic choirs, yet mirrored dimly in the distortions of human words, we attempt to express our gratitude, Lord Jesus, for the gift of your wondrous love for us. Through the Word you were from the beginning, and in you all things have come into being. In you was life, and the life was the light of all people. Born of Mary, you became the Word made flesh, dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. Dying at the hands of your accusers, you were raised in glory, and from your fullness have we all received grace upon grace. Therefore, we join with all on earth who name your name, and all who surround you in heaven, to sing our praise:

**All: (singing) Tune: Passion Chorale**

**O Glorious Christ, we bless you  
And with the angels cry;  
O Jesus, we confess you the Son enthroned on high!  
Lord, grant our sins remission;  
Life through your death restore,  
And grant us the fruition of life forevermore.**

Leader: Bless us and these gifts of bread and wine, that, now being set apart from a common to a sacred and mystical use they may represent to us your body and your blood, and that through the power of the Holy Spirit, we may be made to partake really and truly of your blessed life.

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, open our eyes that we too may see you in the breaking of this bread!**

Leader: Great is the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### **PARTAKING OF THE MEAL**

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for giving yourself for us and for satisfying our hunger with the Eucharistic food. Send us forth in the reconciling and healing peace of the cross to walk in the light and believe in the light that we and all people may become the children of light; through our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.**

**All: *(singing) Tune: Passion Chorale***

**When strength one day shall fail me,**

**Lord, fail me not, I pray;**

**When pangs of death assail me,**

**Beside me, Jesus stay.**

**When, head and heart, I languish,**

**And hardly draw my breath,**

**Deliver me from anguish, by virtue of thy death.**

# READINGS AND EXTINGUISHING OF LIGHTS

*silence*

## 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.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

**Leader:** May Jesus Christ who for our sakes became obedient to death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you.

**People:** **Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

“Take And Eat” (Janks)

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*We welcome you to our Community of Faith. We pray that God will speak to you during this worship experience. If you have need of pastoral assistance, we encourage you to contact Pastor Dwayne at the church office number listed below or make an appointment with him today.*

*We welcome children in worship at all times. If you would prefer, childcare is available. Please see one of our ushers. Children's bulletins and crayons are available from the ushers.*

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|---|--|
| <b>Ministers</b>                        | All the people of the Congregation   |
| <b>Pastor</b>                           | The Rev. Dwayne A. Mosier  |
| <b>Minister of Music</b>                | Dan Weckerly   |
| <b>President of the Consistory</b>      | Liz Brunton  |
| <b>Vice President of the Consistory</b> | Michele Luke   |
| <b>Secretary of the Consistory</b>      | Molly Lorenz   |
| <b>Moderator of Spiritual Council</b>   | Molly Lorenz   |
| <b>Elders:</b>                          | Liz Brunton, Joan Hagerman, Mary Lambon<br>Molly Lorenz, Barbara Montague-Graham |
| <b>Chair of the Diaconate</b>           | Michele Luke   |
| <b>Deacons:</b>                         | Liam D'Aquila, Sandy Dounce<br>Michele Luke, Lynda Waltman                       |
| <b>Church Secretary</b>                 | Judy Parker  |
| <b>Sexton</b>                           | Emeric Suto  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                        | Sandy Maben  |

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