

COURT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



OPENING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Dear God, whether we have come from near or far we sanctuary in this place, your house. As we open our hearts for worship silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship on this holy night and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

GATHERING

Entering the Land of the Seeking

WORDS & MUSIC: © 2023 Spencer LaJoye
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*There's a place you can get to without any sound
It's a place where the wick has burned out
There's a place at the point that's past turning around
There is a place to be lost long after you're found
There's a land you can reach if you follow yourself
It's a land beyond hoarding your fears so to quell
There's a land where the bottom falls out of the well
There is a land where your worry and wonder can dwell*

*Coax your quiet questionings
Speak your soft uncertainties*

*There is room for these
In the land of seeking*



*Draw a map without borders and see where you go
In the cover of night, call a question a home
Past the edge of defenses you're never alone
There is a place where your worries and wonder are known*

*Coax your quiet questionings
Speak your soft uncertainties*

*There is room for these
In the land of seeking*

*The compass points straight to the heart of a shadow of a doubt
The key is the most honest thing that you can't speak aloud
There is no wrong way to be unsure of things
There is no wrong way to the land of the seeking*

*Coax your quiet questionings
Speak your soft uncertainties*

*There is room for these
In the land of seeking*

Gathering

*Coax your quiet questionings
Speak your soft uncertainties*

*There is room for these
In the land of seeking*

ENGAGING

Feasting on the Word

Go Down, Moses

Exodus 12:1-14 (GNT)

WORDS: African American Spiritual

MUSIC: TUBMAN, African American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

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*When Israel was in Egypt's land,
let my people go;
oppressed so hard they could not stand,
let my people go.
Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh
let my people go!*

*"Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said,
let my people go;
"if not, I'll smite your first-born dead,"
let my people go.*

*Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!*

*No more shall they in bondage toil,
let my people go;
let them come out with Egypt's spoil,
let my people go.
Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!*

Interlude

*We need not always weep and mourn,
let my people go;
and wear those slavery chains forlorn,
let my people go.*

*Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!*



Your foes shall not before you stand,
let my people go;
and you'll possess fair Canaan's land,
let my people go.
Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

O let us all from bondage flee,
let my people go;
and let us all in Christ be free,
let my people go.
Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Psalm 116 (MSG)

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923

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Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Interlude

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Jesu, Jesu

John 13:1-17, 31b-35 (NLT)

WORDS: Tom Colvin, 1969

MUSIC: Ghana Folk song; arr. by Tom Colvin, 1969; harm. by Charles H. Webb, 1987

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Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.

Neighbors are rich and poor
neighbors are black and white,
neighbors are near and far away.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.

These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you.



*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

Interlude

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

*Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.*

*Loving puts us on our knees,
serving as though we are slaves,
this is the way we should live with you.*

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

THANKSGIVING

Coming Clean with Christ

One: Tonight as we prepare ... to come clean with Christ as we pray together:

All: Christ, in your presence we discover who we are. You wash our feet, and we learn how reluctant we are to serve one another. Even as you prepare to give yourself for the sake of the world, we are still seeking promotions and possessions. Our love scarcely suffices to fulfill the requirements of good manners, and yet you invite us to eat with you at your table. Forgive us, and help us to value your presence more dearly, that we may find this meal to be a celebration of joy. (Silent prayers of confession may be offered.)

One: God brought Jesus ... you are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

Coming Clean with Each Other

One: As a forgiven people let us celebrate the peace that's born out of our offering of forgiveness and love. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: And now let us share that peace one with another.

Regathering Song

Bind Us Together

#2226

WORDS & MUSIC: Bob Gillman

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*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.*

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together,
Lord, bind us together in love.*

*There is only one God,
there is only one King;*

*There is only one body,
that is why we sing.*

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.*

*Bind us together, Lord, bind us together,
Lord, bind us together in love.*



Feasting at the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Our prayer of Great Thanksgiving follows a structure similar to the traditional Jewish Passover celebration in which a question is asked among those gathered about the meaning of the ritual action.

One: What questions do you bring?

All: Why do we give thanks and praise before this table? We give thanks for God's work of creation, liberation, and salvation.

One: It is indeed right ... joining our voices in their unending hymn of praise:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: All glory and blessing are yours ... until he comes again.

All: Why do we eat bread at this table?

One: On the night before he died ... Do this in remembrance of me."

All: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

One: The same night Jesus took the cup ... Do this in remembrance of me."

All: What do we remember at this table?

One: We remember ... the great mystery of faith:

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

One: Merciful God ... now and forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Receiving

One: Let us pray . . .

All: Divine Parent of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, He declared your love, give us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Anchor us in this hope that we have grasped; so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



SENDING

Parting Song

What Wondrous Love Is This

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WORDS: USA folk hymn

MUSIC: USA folk hymn; harm. by Paul J. Christiansen, 1955 (MH harm by Carlton R. Young)
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*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.*

Parting Blessing

You are invited to depart the service tonight in silence as we make our journey into the remainder of this Holy Week. Join us for Good Friday worship tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. right here in the sanctuary of Court Street United Methodist Church.

