

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**April 8, 2020**  
***Maundy Thursday***  
***7:30pm***  
***St. John's United Methodist Church***

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During tonight's service, you will be invited to participate in a Love Feast.

The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the *koinonia* (fellowship) of communities joined as the family of Christ. Its origins in the early church were closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper as it was first established at that Passover Meal when Jesus gathered his disciples together.

The history of the Love Feast continued with the Moravians in Germany who introduced it as a service of sharing food, prayer, conversation, and the singing of hymns. John Wesley first experienced the Love Feast among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia. It quickly became a feature of the Evangelical Revival and a regular part of Methodist society meetings in Great Britain. As Methodists immigrated to North America, they made Love Feasts an important part of early American Methodism. The feast was often held on occasions when there was no one present authorized to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

It is important to note that the Love Feast is not a Sacrament and may be conducted by any Christian person. Testimonies and praise are a focal point in most Love Feasts, as well as prayer and singing. Sharing of food is a central part of the feast and may be shared in silence or with informal conversation in Christian fellowship. The "bread" may be crackers, rolls, or a sweet bread baked especially for this service, and broken into small portions to be passed from person to person. The "cup" may be a cup of lemonade, tea, coffee, or water served to each person individually (the early Methodists used to pass a "loving cup with two handles" from person to person).

During our Maundy Thursday livestream Service, we will participate in the Love Feast. In remembrance of that Passover Meal that Jesus shared with his disciples, we invite you to set your table with some unleavened crackers, dried or fresh fruit, and perhaps a hard-boiled egg, along with your favorite beverage.

Gathering Music

Gil Flores

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Pam Rowley

Prelude

Jim Ahrend

Call to Worship

**God of the covenant,  
as we celebrate the beginning of the Passover feast,  
we come to the table of the Lord,  
in whom we have salvation, life, and resurrection.  
Renew the power of this mystery  
in our service to one another and to you,  
so that with Christ we may pass from this life  
to the glory of your kingdom. Amen.**

Hymn

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

UMH 581

## 581 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service



1. Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of  
2. Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry  
3. As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -  
4. Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear



hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,  
cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;  
veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness  
name we go to the child, the youth, the a - ged,

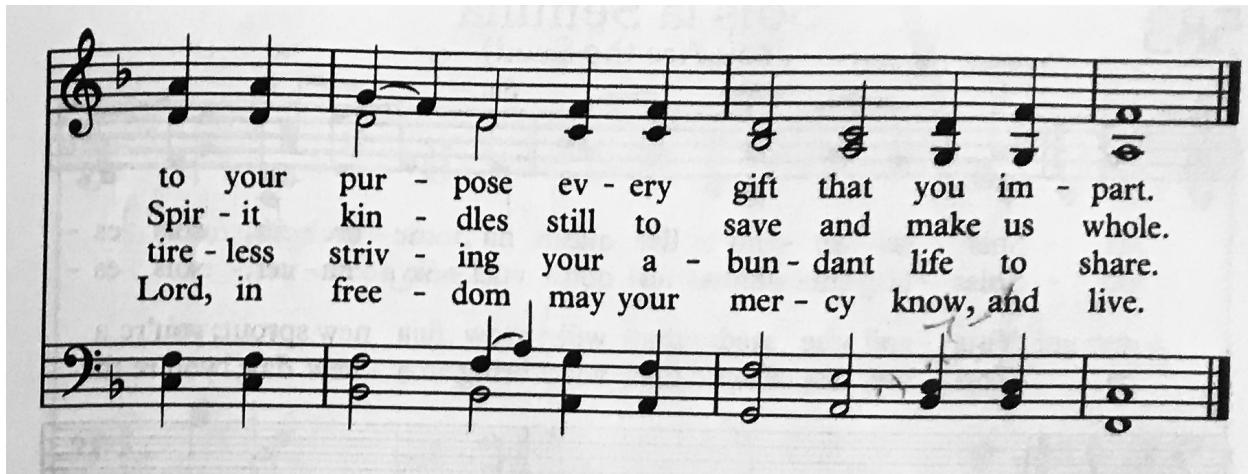


of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed: we, your ser - vants, bring the  
still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com -  
dawns up - on our quick-en ed sight, mak-ing known the needs and  
love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and



wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se - crat - ing  
pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your  
bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring us to  
com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your ser - vants,





### Prayer of Confession

**Jesus, our feet are dirty from the journey.  
We have not loved one another as you have loved us.  
Callousness and violence stain our hearts and lives.  
How will we become clean again?  
We see the table here,  
But who will make us clean and ready for the meal?  
Where will we find water for these soiled soles?  
Restore us to the joy of God's salvation.  
Amen.**

Personal prayer in **silence** for our sins

Leader: The lamb of God takes away the sins of the world.  
Believe the good news.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven

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

Call to Prayer

“Lamb of God”

Gil Flores and Jim Ahrend

Prayer for Maundy Thursday

Prayer Response

“Lamb of God”

Gil Flores and Jim Ahrend

Proclamation of Christ the Light

Readings: The Calling of the Apostles

Response

“Lamb of God”

Gil Flores and Jim Ahrend

Readings: The Call to Serve

Response

“The Basin and the Towel”  
Michael Card

Gil Flores

Readings: The Response to Serve

Hymn

“Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken”

**Bread of the World** 624

1. Bread of the world in mer - cy bro-ken, wine of the  
2. Look on the heart by sor - row bro-ken, look on the

soul in mer - cy shed, by whom the words of life were  
tears by sin - ners shed; and be thy feast to us the

spo - ken, and in whose death our sins are dead:  
to - ken that by thy grace our souls are fed.

Preparation for the Agape Meal

Leader: And now a table is set before us. A love feast is prepared for us.

**People:** **A meal of bread and fruit, of meat and bitter herbs.**

Leader: The Lord calls us to this feast of remembrance.

**People:** **The Lord calls us to serve and to be served.**

Leader: As we break the bread and share the meal, our understanding may fail us.  
**People:** **But we will never forget Christ's example.**  
**We will never forget the extent of his love.**

Leader: Remember the Lord Jesus. Remember and be thankful  
as we feast together through His Spirit love.

## Sharing of the Love Feast

*The worship team will provide 5 minutes of quiet music as you share in the Love Feast, read scripture, and pray a simple prayer.*

**Beginning Prayer:** Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored; Thy creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in paradise with Thee.

**Scripture:** (Enjoy the reading of scripture while partaking of the feast.)

Psalm 145:8-21  
1 Corinthians 13  
1 John 4:7-12  
Luke 4:15-24  
John 6:25-35

**Closing Prayer:** Creating God, Thy hungry children feed, thy grace be to our spirits given, that true immortal bread. Grant us in Jesus Christ to prove the sweetness of thy pardoning grace, the manna of thy love. Amen. (*Adapted from a prayer by Charles Wesley.*)

Liturgy taken in part from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*, pp. 581-583.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this feast in which you have shown your love and we remember how you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may experience the strength and mercy of your Spirit, so that we may give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who teaches us to pray together: 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.

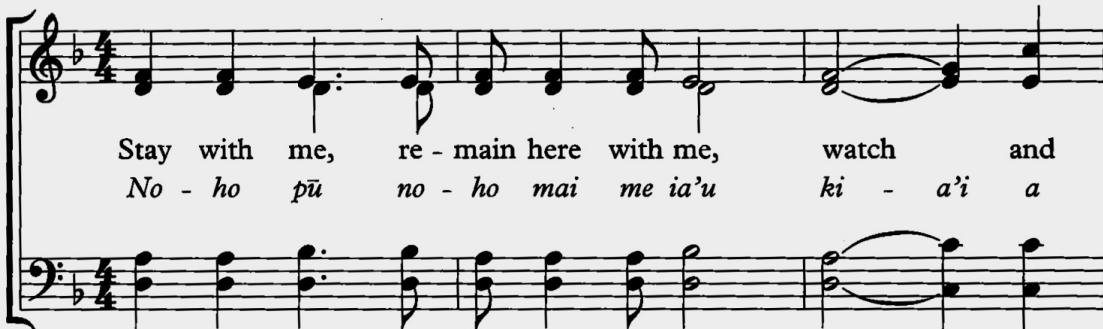
## Readings: The Garden

# Stay with Me

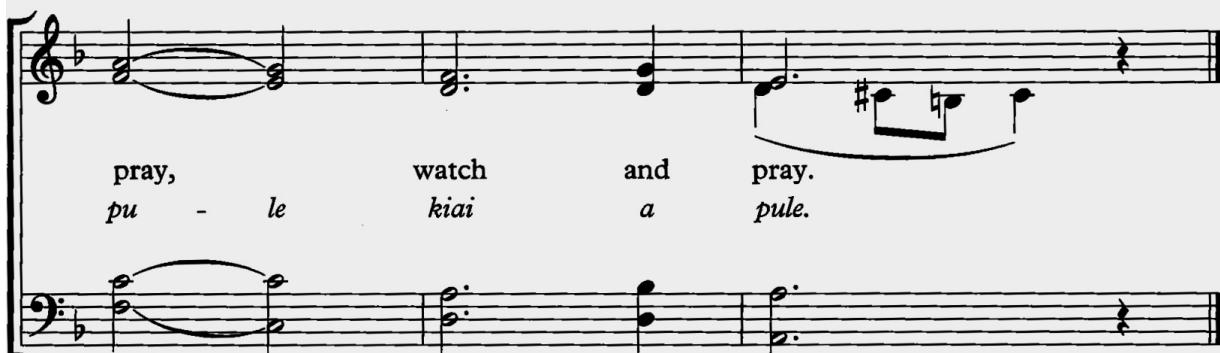
(Noho Pū)

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**1. Ostinato Chorale (Repeat as desired.)**



Stay with me, re - main here with me, watch and  
No - ho pū no - ho mai me ia'u ki - a'i a



pray, watch and pray.  
pu - le kiai a pule.

Readings: The Betrayal

Benediction

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**Worship Leaders**

Rev. Dr. Pam Rowley  
Rev. Kelly Giese  
Gil Flores  
Jim Ahrend  
Matthew Greer

Please join us here for Good Friday worship at 7:30pm,  
and Easter Sunday worship at 11am.

Abide will celebrate Easter Sunday at 9:30am on their Facebook page.

*Go to [stjohns-abq.org](http://stjohns-abq.org) to give online.  
You may also mail checks to: St. John's UMC, 2626 Arizona Street NE, 87110.*