

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering of God's People

Welcome

*Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Call to Worship

We join a solemn journey of three days that has changed the world and our own lives. Followers of Jesus have been taking this journey since his first followers took it, long ago.

This is the night of love.

On the night Jesus took a towel and basin, and washed his disciples' feet. On this night he told them to do the same for others to show their love for him and for one another.

This is the night of love.

On this night, followers of Jesus have invited those preparing for baptism to begin with them a solemn vigil of prayer and fasting until the day of Christ's resurrection is fulfilled.

This is the night of love.

On this night, Jesus broke bread and shared wine with his followers for the last time, and invited them to remember him to encounter him anew, whenever they did the same.

This is the night of love.

On this night, followers of Jesus have welcomed those who have returned to the way of Jesus after a time of wandering and a journey of returning.

This is the night of love.

This is the night of love.

And so, on this night, we welcome the penitent --

all here have wandered- -

and invite all preparing --

all here are still learning --

to join us in hearing and obeying the commandment of our Master and to feast at his table, that we may love one another as he has loved us.

Come, ye sinners.

Come, ye thirsty.

Come, ye weary.

Come to the night of love.

Opening Prayer

*Hymn of Praise

O How He Loves You and Me

FWS 2108

O how he loves you and me!

O how he loves you and me!

He gave his life. What more can he give?

O how he loves you; O how he loves me.

O how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calvary did go;

His love for sinners to show.

What he did there brought hope from despair.

O how he loves you; O how he loves me.

O how he loves you and me!

Proclamation of the Word

Gospel Lesson John 13:1-17, 31b-35

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Preparation

“The Seven Last Words from the Cross”

The First Word

Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Second Word

Today thou shalt be with me in paradise.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Third Word

Woman, behold thy son!...(Son), behold thy mother.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom. .

The Fourth Word

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Fifth Word

I thirst.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Sixth Word

It is finished.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

The Seventh Word

Into thy hands I commend my spirit.

Response:

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom.

Blessing of the Elements & Water

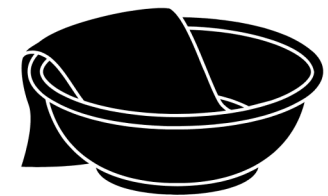
(You are invited to come forward to the washing stations first. The person in front of you will wash your hands and you will wash the hands of the person behind you. You may take the drying cloths with you as a reminder to serve your neighbor. You will then proceed to the altar to receive Communion. You may stay and pray at the altar for as long as you would like. Afterwards, please read the benediction and leave the service quietly.)

Benediction

Even as he faced betrayal and death, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gather at the table with them, loving them and inviting them to love one another. Go with the blessings of God remembering that tonight is not the end of the story.

*Mediations adapted from *Thank God It's Friday* by retired United Methodist Bishop William H. Willimon.

**First United Methodist Church
Camden, Arkansas**



Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2026

6:30pm