Maundy Thursday
March 31, 2021

Gathering Song *Vessels* Chuck Bell

Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.

Welcome **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**

This culminating moment of our worship series invites us
to consider a commission from Christ to his disciples:

to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons.

These are the very things his disciples have seen him do and that we have sought to witness for our own lives in this Lenten season of recovery.
What will *we* do with this commission? How will we address ongoing pain with hope and conviction even though we, ourselves, are "healed and yet still healing?"

Reading: Commission
Matthew 10: 1-8

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

Hymn No. 721 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

Reading: The Supper
Matthew 26: 20-29

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for

many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Communion Hymn No. 501 Feed Us, Lord FEED US

Communion

Christ gave us the mandate to love one another.
Christ gave us the peace that we will never be left alone.
Christ gave us the picture that we are connected as vine and branches.
Christ gave us the assurance that no one will take away our joy.

Please join me in prayer:

God is with you!
God is with us all!
Open wide our hearts.
We open them to new possibilities.
From our dining room tables to our home offices.
this is the time to give God our thanks and praise.

Our homes may be filled with young voices,
or our homes may be filled with overwhelming silence.
This table might be brimming with family,
or we may be sitting by ourselves at the empty table.
But the table is never truly empty. The silence will not be the last sound you hear.

Jesus the Christ has created a realm of love for each of us—
one in which we will be find new friendship with God and with one another,
one in which we are assured of God's comfort,
where all God's children enjoy abundance, peace and justice.

Spirit of God, surround the bread. Surround the cup.
Surround the elements – no matter what form they take.
Surround us – no matter where we are.
Bless us in our eating and drinking.
Bless our connection – near and far.

We pray these things in the name of the One who is with us now and always,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those

who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Reading: Predictions
Matthew 26: 30-35

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Hymn Within Our Darkest Night TAIZE

Prayers in the Night

Let us take this moment, as Jesus did, to dare ask the questions that come from the most broken places of our souls–our "deepest grieving." It is in acknowledging what feels most broken, most cynical, most impossible, that healing can occur. We must address the roots of our ill in order for the salve of God's desire for us to enter. You are invited to a time of reflection, becoming awake, staying awake, to the deep need within us and around us.

Postlude: Hymn No. 227 Jesus, Remember Me REMEMBER ME
Cheryl Weiss, alto; Pong Thiemmedh, tenor; Ken Shafer, piano

Silent reflection