



Maundy Thursday
A Service of Holy Communion, Scripture, and Song
Pieces of Silver Offering
April 2, 2026

Leading Worship Tonight:
Frank Yates, Interim Pastor
Cyndi Pitts, Liturgist
Nancy Leffler, Director of Music
Nathan Secrest, Accompanist

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Rio Rancho Presbyterian Church

We Gather in the Upper Room

Gathering Music *When Jesus Wept* - by William Ringham

Prelude *Were You There?* - by Timothy Matthews

Call to the Upper Room

Leader: We gather tonight to tell the old, old story.

People: a story of bitterness and betrayal, of despair, denial, and death.

Leader: We gather tonight to tell an even older story
prepared before the worlds began,

People: a story of love powerful enough to rewrite our endings with the promise of new life.

Leader: In the telling of the story, in the breaking of the bread,
in the coming of the night,

People: we draw near once more to Christ.

Word Through Music *And the Crowd Cried Out* Chancel Choir

Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 116 Cyndi Pitts
(This can be found on p. 553 of your pew Bible.)

***Hymn #216** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

From the Gospels: Luke 22: 14-30
(This can be found on p. 960-961 of your pew Bible.)

Reflections on Greatness

Rev. Frank Yates

Meditation

Behold the Wood

Chancel Choir

With Jesus at the Table

The Invitation to the Table

***Hymn #525** *Let Us Break Bread Together*

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Music: *Prelude No. 4*

- J. S. Bach

Words of Institution/Sharing Bread and Cup

Postlude *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* - by Robert W Thygerson

We Go Out to Wait for the Dawn

(We depart in silence.)

Thank you for joining us this evening!

216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, thy shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;
 the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 and from my strick - en heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.
 the won - ders of re - deem - ing love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

For sheer intensity of feeling few hymns can match this meditation on the cross; impressive images and strong contrasts combine to give the text its ardor. The passionate language is augmented by the highly chromatic tune later composed for these words.

Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to- geth- er on our knees; (on our knees)
 2 Let us drink wine to- geth- er on our knees; (on our knees)
 3 Let us praise God to- geth- er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to- geth- er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us drink wine to- geth- er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us praise God to- geth- er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris- ing sun,

O Lord, have mer- cy on me. (on me)

This African American spiritual quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshippers' experience.