

Welcome to St. John's St. Jonns Christian Church

"The Church on the Corner Whose Cornerstone is Christ"



COME HEAR THE REASON WE'RE INSPIRED TO SERVE TOGETHER

We are a community of faith founded upon God's Holy Word, preaching salvation through believing in Christ as our Savior. We seek to live in God's truth, being obedient to His Word and following in His ways.

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

Welcome, Scripture and Prayer

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Prelude - For quiet preparation and reflection

"You Are My King (Amazing Love)"

†Call to Worship

- L: We gather in remembrance. We remember a night from long, long ago; a night in which events culminated with Peter disowning Jesus.
- P: It began with a plot against Jesus, a plot hastened by the betrayal of Judas; it ended with the disciples falling away, leaving Jesus alone before his accusers.
- L: It included a celebration of the Passover, recalling the Israelites' exodus from Egypt; with an awareness of God's presence throughout their history, yet they fell away.
- P: There was the humble washing of feet, an act by which Jesus set the example to do for one another what Jesus has done for each of us - to serve one another.
- L: Prior to his arrest in the dark of night, Jesus prayed at Gethsemane, praying for his Father's will, leaving us with the prayerful example: "not as I will, but as you will."
- P: As I remember that night in our worship on this night, I praise God for His unfailing love of me, even through the times when I have denied Him, or when I have chosen my will over His, I am aware of God's care for me, so I come to worship my Lord.

†Opening Hymn

#206, "There Is a Redeemer"

†Unison Prayer of Confession: Lord Jesus, a difficult part of that night was the betrayal by one of your disciples. We may not understand his reasons, nor his ending his life, but we can understand his remorse, his awareness of his sin. I come before you, confessing my own sin, offering my remorse, seeking your forgiveness and pledging myself to your will for my life. Help me tonight; help me to understand the depth of your sacrifice, that I will be strengthened and renewed in my devotion to you. In your name, we pray. Amen.

†Words of Assurance: May the words of Matthew 26:28 fill me with assurance: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." By his shed blood, and through our confession of Jesus as Lord, our sins are forgiven, praise be to God. Amen, and Amen!

†Hymn Response

#588, "We Have Come into His House"

Prayer of Dedication and Evening Offering

"Above All"

Offertory Reading from God's Word

1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:31-35 "Proclaiming the Lord's Death"

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation, Words of Institution, and Prayer of Consecration

Sermon

Vocal Ensemble "How Beautiful"

Keira Grandey, Buffy Riley, David Stuckey, Norm Fether

Distribution of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Blessing

†Closing Hymn

#321, "According to Thy Gracious Word"

†Benediction

†Stripping of the Sanctuary

†Depart in Silent Meditation

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S! Our Communion Table is open to all who confess their sins and accept Christ as Lord and Savior. Juice is served in the trays of the cup.

THE LAST SUPPER is remembered not as the Jewish Passover, but as the Lord's Supper into which Jesus transformed it for his disciples. Instead of celebrating the escape from slavery in Egypt, it became a celebration of his passing over from death to life in which his followers share. "Maundy" is the English form of the Latin word "mandatum" meaning "commandment." This refers to Jesus' new commandment "...that you love one another. Just as I have loved you..."

LOOSE OFFERINGS and JESSE TREE DONATIONS support the ministries of the Arole's in India and Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Accompanist: Lynne Christman Head Usher: Eric Nafziger Sound Tech: James Grime Song Leader: Elaine Winzeler

Live Stream Tech: Cayla Swisher EW Tech: Kelly Ducey

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Friday - GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 p.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Sunday - EASTER SUNDAY

6:15 a.m. Life Planning prepares Easter Breakfast

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship Service

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall

8:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt (JYF hosting)

9:15 a.m. Confirmation/Sunday School/Faith Village

10:30 a.m. Easter Worship in the Sanctuary and YouTube Live

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. ² Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. ¹² How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me? ¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. ¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. ¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have freed me from my chains. ¹⁷ I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord. ¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, ¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the Lord -- in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

John 13:31-35 When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. ³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. ³⁴ "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

THE STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY. Our service for Maundy Thursday concludes with the stripping of the sanctuary, which is done in silence and in an unhurried, orderly fashion. The practice dates from the seventh century and is a ceremonial custom. In silence and in shadows, communion vessels, pulpit and lectern hangings, and other liturgical objects are sensitively removed, thus dramatizing the desolation, abandonment and darkness of the passion and death of our Lord. The sanctuary remains bare until the beginnings of the Easter celebration. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors.

