



# Valley Community

PC(USA)

## *Maundy* **Thursday**

April 2, 2026 | 7:00 PM



*"Do this in Remembrance of Me"*

Maundy Thursday is about celebrating Holy Communion and remembering the first night that Jesus gave the church the Lord's Supper in the upper room. Just like the Nativity stories have special meaning on Christmas Eve, communion has special meaning on Maundy Thursday. When we participate in the sacrament on this night, we remember that we belong to God.

Communion on this special night can be very meaningful for children and their families. It is a chance for all of God's people to hear the stories of the most important days of the year and to celebrate the sacrament that was introduced by Jesus for the first time.

Stories are important on this night. The key story is the bread and cup of the Last Supper. But the story of washing the disciples' feet and the Passover story are also part of the night. And all the stories told on Maundy Thursday connect to the Good Friday stories.

## PRELUDE

*Jesus Paid It All*  
Arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

Rachel Williams, piano

*Were You There and When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
Arr. by Michael Larkin

## WELCOME

Rev. Kyle Sandison

## † HYMN #836

### **Abide With Me** (verses 1 & 2)

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see.  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

## OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor Sheila Sheldon, CRE

**Pastor:** In the upper room, Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you should love one another."

**People:** Tonight, we gather in love. Love for our Savior, love for our church family, and love for our world.

**Pastor:** In worship tonight, we testify to God's love shown perfectly in Christ.

## **OPENING SENTENCES** (Continued)

**People:** We recommit ourselves to love one another as a community of faith.

**Pastor:** Even as we see the troubles of the world that rejected you, we hold fast to your promise of love.

**People:** You, O Lord, are our rock and our redeemer.

**Pastor:** Let us remember that great love and blessed assurance even and especially this night.

### **† HYMN #836**

#### ***Abide With Me*** (verses 3 & 4)

I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

## **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **The Invitation to the Table**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.

### **Distribution of the Bread & Cup**

#### **† Hymn #507**

#### ***Come to the Table of Grace***

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.  
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.

Come to the table of grace.  
Come to the table of peace...  
Come to the table of love...  
Come to the table of hope...  
Come to the table of joy...

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of abundance, with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, you have united us with your Son, making us one with all your people. We pray that the light of Christ we found at the table will dawn on our souls and remove all bitterness. Help our lives reflect Christ's love. Let his love show in our deeds, let his peace shine in our words, and let his healing come to all who are in need tonight. Amen.

### † Hymn #836

#### **Abide With Me** (verse 5)

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## THE SERVICE OF TENEBRAE

*Tenebrae was originally celebrated by the church on Good Friday, but many congregations include it in Maundy Thursday worship following communion. It is a candle lighting service in reverse. Candles are lit in the beginning with each one snuffed out as a part of the Passion Story is read. It is a way of connecting the Holy Week stories to the resurrection to help us understand the full meaning of Easter Sunday as we sing our Hallelujahs.*

### Special Music

*In Need of Breath*  
Craig Hella Johnson

Rachel Williams  
Jamie Marshall, tenor

## I. The Garden

### Matthew 26:36-46

### Hymn #630

#### **Fairest Lord Jesus** (verses 1 & 4)

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,  
O Thou of God to earth come down.  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

## II. The Betrayal

**Matthew 26:47-56**

**Musical Reflection**

*The Innocence*  
Craig Hella Johnson

Rachel Williams  
Jamie Marshall

## III. The Interrogation

**Matthew 26:57-68**

**Hymn #218**

***Ah, Holy Jesus*** (verses 1 & 2)

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted!

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.

## IV. The Denial

**Matthew 26:69-27:2**

**Musical Reflection**

*Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*  
Arr. by Moses Hogan

Rachel Williams  
Jamie Marshall

## V. The Trial Before Pilate

**Matthew 27:11-26**

**Hymn #223**

***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*** (verses 1 & 3)

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

## VI. The Crucifixion

**Matthew 27:27-44**

**Musical Reflection**

*Steal Away*  
H. T. Burleigh

Rachel Williams  
Jamie Marshall

## VII. Death on the Cross

**Matthew 27:45-54**

**Musical Reflection**

*Were You There?*  
Arr. by Brian Parks

Jamie Marshall

\*\*The congregation may depart in silence or stay in the Sanctuary for silent prayer following the music\*\*

Go in peace. May Jesus Christ,  
who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross,  
keep you and strengthen you this night and forever.



# **Join Us!** **Easter Worship**

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5 | 9:30 AM**

**Rev. Kyle Sandison, Preaching**

**Special Music:**

**Valley Choir**

**Jane Nienaber, organ**

**Rachel Williams, piano**

**Rylee Donald & Jake Meixner, trumpets**



**Valley Community**



# Valley Community

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Open Hearts • Open Minds • Opening Lives to God

—Established May 20, 1951—

## Land Acknowledgement Statement

Valley Community Presbyterian Church sits on the ancestral and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, political, and cultural significance.

We acknowledge the ongoing injustices that we have committed against the Dakota people and pledge to interrupt this legacy. We will educate ourselves about Indigenous history and recognize, support, and advocate for our Native neighbors.



LOGO DESIGN BY WÓOKIYE WIN  
(SISSETON WAHPETON DAKHÓTA  
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