

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
April 1, 2021
Maundy Thursday

Gathering: "As We Gather at Your Table"

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, Your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own.
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save."

Settling In

It was Passover . . .

For Children of All Ages

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

We Meet at the Table of Blessing

A Passover Prayer

A Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God, we need your help. We have lost our way in the world. We have done things you warned us not to do. We have walked away from things you asked us to do. We haven't loved you with our whole heart and being. We haven't loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have wandered away from your loving presence and now we're lost. Forgive us, kind and gracious God, as we forgive those who have injured us. Restore in us the beauty of your image, O God, we pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: . . . thanks be to God, our sins have been forgiven.

All: Our sins have been forgiven. Thanks be to God.

The Great Thanksgiving

One: May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift our hearts to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God, who loves us.

**All: Yes, we will give our loving God
genuine thanks and praise!**

What Happened

It was Passover “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink the cup together on our knees . . .

Let us praise God together on our knees . . .

We Prepare for What Happens Next

Special Music:

“Dies Irae” from Mozart’s Requiem

Jo Beth Dudley

What Happened Next

In the Garden

On the Hill

Music for Reflection “Were You There”

(instrumental)

At the end of this service, I invite you to take a moment to be silent and still. We’ll have some time to ponder what we’ve witnessed before we return to our lives in our homes or wherever we are. We’ve shared the sacred meal with Jesus and his friends. We’ve been with him to the cross. May you carry the solemn and challenging mystery of this night’s sad story through the next days until we meet again.

We thank Dottie Morton and Jo Beth Dudley for sharing their music with us in this special service; and we thank our readers and other helpers: Alice and Bob Muh, Wilma Weddington, Doug and Mary Menzies.

*Thank you for joining us for worship
tonight. It is our sincere hope that
all who gather in this place will know and
experience the love, forgiveness
hope and new life available through Jesus
Christ.*

*First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Littleton, New Hampshire
April 18, 2019*

