



**The First Church of Monson, Congregational
United Church of Christ
Maundy Thursday
Thursday, March 28, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

*As a Christian community of faith and love,
we at First Church strive to accept and respect all people.*

- Core Values, 2022

It Was a Sad and Solemn Night

1. It was a sad and sol - emn night, when
 2. Be - fore the mourn - ful scene be - gan, our
 3. "This is my bod - y, bro - ken for sin, re -
 4. "Share this, my feast, till time shall end, in
 5. O Christ your feast we cel - e - brate, we

powers of earth and hell a - rose A -
 Je - sus blessed and broke the bread; What
 ceive and eat the liv - ing food." Then
 mem - ory of your dy - ing friend: Meet
 show your death, we sing your name, Till

gainst the child of God's de - light, whom
 love through all these ac - tions ran, what
 took the cup and blessed the wine, "This
 at my ta - ble and re - call the
 you re - turn, and we shall eat the

friends be - trayed to wick - ed foes
 won - drous words of love were said
 the new cov - e - nant in my blood
 love which God has shown to all
 mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

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For Meditation:

*“To be Christ’s friend is to sit with him on the last day of his life –
or on any day of your own – and to listen to him, sharing his
hopes and fears, claiming his vision as your own and accepting
his invitation of friendship.”*

– Barbara Brown Taylor

Prelude

Intermezzo on Ubi Caritas

– F. Brauer

Greeting

God’s People Come to Worship

Hymn

It Was a Sad and Solemn Night

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Service of Communion

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you
thanks and praise, God of majesty and splendor. By

your power you created all that is, making a universe out of chaos, and ruling over all things in love. Throughout the ages you called your people to love and serve you, and to be your light among the nations. When we failed you, you did not fail us and sent prophets to call us back to your ways.

We praise you that in the fullness of time, you revealed your love by sending your Son Jesus to be the Light of the World. He came to heal our brokenness and to set before us the ways of justice and peace.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

P: Holy, Holy, Holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks to your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest.

L: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He was born to dwell among us, full of grace and truth; in him we have seen your glory. Baptized by John in the Jordan, he lived for you, spoke your truth, showed your love, and gave himself for others. In his death on the cross, he overcame death. Rising from the tomb, he raised us to eternal life, and made us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

P: Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your spirit, unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ’s body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

P: Amen.

Communion Hymn *Jesus, Remember Me* - Taize (Page 6)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Observance of Tenebrae

Anthem *Stay Here and Keep Watch* - Jacques Berthier

Shadow of Betrayal Matthew 26:20-25 - Dan Newberry

Shadow of Desertion Matthew 26:30-35 - Jeanne Dill

Agony of Soul Matthew 26:36-45 - Diana Nothe-Taylor

Anthem *A Lenten Love Song* - H. Kemp

Unshared Vigil Luke 22:39-46 - Keith Obert

Father, the Hour Has Come John 17:1-8 - Karen Frickenhaus

That We May Be One John 17:20-26 - Debra Shepard

Arrest at the Gate Luke 22:47-54 - Judith White

Anthem *Ubi Caritas* - Taize

Shadow at the Cross Mark 15:1-20 - Christian Young

Anthem *Behold the Cross* - Cindy DeSellier

The Word Was God John 1:1-4, 10, 12, 14, 3:19 - Rev. Jack Kraaz

Hymn *Were You There?* (Page 7)

Depart in Silence

You are asked to leave the church in silence at the conclusion of the service. Since the church will be darkened, please move slowly and carefully.

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Jesus, Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when you come in to your kingdom.

5

Je-sus, remember me when you come in-to your king dom.

Were You There?

Negro Spiritual

WERE YOU THERE *Irregular*
Negro Melody

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!
 there when they laid him in the tomb?

Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?