

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:00 AM

October 4, 2020
Love Feast

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "Let Us Break Bread Together" (Callahan)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Chris Herman, Worship Leader

One: We gather as people of the new covenant which is sealed with Christ's blood.

All: Praise God for Jesus Christ who atoned for our sins once and for all.

One: We celebrate our redemption as we commune at our Lord's table.

All: We dedicate this service to the memory and praise of our Lord's sacrificial love or us.

***OPENING PRAYER**

O God your steadfast love has been ours for generations. Through Christ, you brought us out of the abyss of death and into the light of eternal love. With joy and thanksgiving, we proclaim our salvation, remembering Christ's death and resurrection, until he comes again. As we break bread and share the cup together, may Christ be present with us and may the Spirit bind us together as Christ's body in this world. Amen.

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

***HYMN #6** "Here in this place"

[Verse 1]

*Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away. See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken, gather us in – the blind and the lame. Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

[Verse 2]

We are the young - our lives are a mystery, we are the old - who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in – the rich and the haughty, gather us in – the proud and the strong. Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

[Verse 3]

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you. Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

[Verse 4]

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place, the new light is shining; now is the Kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in – and hold us forever, gather us in – and make us your own. Gather us in – all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

MEDITATION AND EXAMINATION

SCRIPTURES

Matthew 27:24

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

John 13:5

Then he, Jesus, poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.

MEDITATION (continued)

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SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 11:27-32

Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master irreverently is like part of the crowd that jeered and spit on him at his death. Is that the kind of “remembrance” you want to be part of? Examine your motives, test your heart, come to this meal in holy awe. If you give no thought (or worse, don’t care) about the broken body of the Master when you eat and drink, you’re running the risk of serious consequences. That’s why so many of you even now are listless and sick, and others have gone to an early grave. If we get this straight now, we won’t have to be straightened out later on. Better to be confronted by the Master now than to face a fiery confrontation later.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offertory Invitation

As we prepare to give our tithes and offerings, hear these words based on Deuteronomy 16:16b-17. “No one should appear before the Lord empty handed; all should give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that has been given you.”

We come together in these moments, to give as one body, both gathered in his house of worship and gathered through virtual technology, may we do so with generous hearts. We give by placing our offerings in the plate, mailing to the church, or using Paypal. Together, as we give, we declare our dedication to Jesus and our obedience to serve him.

Offertory “Bread of the World” (Bartlett)

***Response #119** “Doxology”

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thanks be to thee, O God, for all good gifts, and especially for thy inexpressible gift of the Lord Jesus. Help us, O Lord, to see wherein we have been blessed, and to be a blessing to others. Amen.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

*Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.
Please do not share any personal information you do not want public.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC “Come to the Table of Grace”
Temple Choir

The Service of Feetwashing

MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE

John 13:1-17

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4 got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” 7 Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” 8 Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” 9 Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” 10 Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” 11 For he

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knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

MEDITATION (continued)

UNISON PRAYER FOR FEETWASHING

O God, although we are living in a time when circumstances do not allow us to kneel to wash one another’s feet, we seek to follow Christ’s example of caring for and serving our brothers and sisters. So, we lift to you in prayer those sitting beside us... those sitting in front of us and behind us. Even though we may not know whether they have any needs; or, if they do, what their needs may be...we care about them and we ask you to help them. Also, show us how we can serve them. Bless them we pray. Amen.

WASHING OUR HANDS

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

The Agape Meal

SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:7-9, 18-20

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever

does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.

MEDITATION

PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR THE MEAL

THE FELLOWSHIP MEAL

The Service of Communion

MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:32-38, 44-47

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. 34 Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” 36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37 and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” 38 There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole

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land until three in the afternoon, 45 while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. 47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent."

THE BREAD

Unison Affirmation for the Bread

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

THE CUP

Unison Affirmation for the Cup

The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

SENDING OUT

HYMN #421 "Bless'd be the tie that binds"

(verses 1,3,4,6)

[Verse 1]

*Bless'd be the tie that binds our hearts in Jesus' love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

[Verse 3]

*We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.*

[Verse 4]

*When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain,
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.*

[Verse 6]

*From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free,
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.*

BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated. Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.

POSTLUDE "Jesus, Bread of Life, I Pray Thee" (Wagner)

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\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

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*(Worship resources used from "Words for Worship,"
by Arlene M. Mark; and "For All Who Minister,"
A Worship Manual for the Church of the Brethren")*