

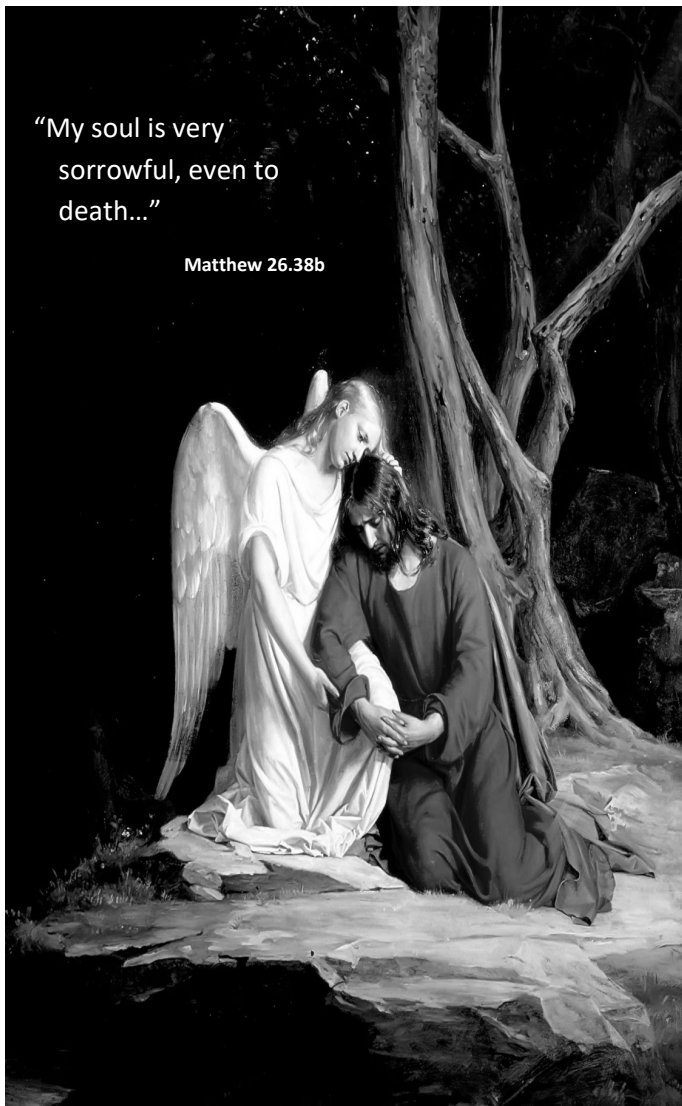
06 April 2023

Maundy Thursday

St. John's: Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ

"My soul is very
sorrowful, even to
death..."

Matthew 26.38b



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326

St. John's Evangelical Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday (8:30-10:30 & 12:30-2:30)

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“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Maundy Thursday

April 6, 2023

Call to Worship

L: Leader C: Congregation

Hebrews 12:1-3

L: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

C: looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,

L: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,

C: despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

L: Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself,

C: so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Grace

Meal

Gathering Song

Jesus Paid It All

Dave Beazley/Augustin Forester

Prayer

Scripture

Isaiah 50:4-9

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning He awakens;
He awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶ I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.
⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.
⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.
⁹ Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Scripture

Matthew 26:36-46

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to His disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ And taking with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, He began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ Then He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me." ³⁹ And going a little farther He fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup

pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.” ⁴⁰ And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And He said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with Me one hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴² Again, for the second time, He went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, Your will be done.” ⁴³ And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So, leaving them again, He went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵ Then He came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going; see, My betrayer is at hand.”

Sermon **Into the Hands of Sinners**

Communion

Communion Song *Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees*

Blessing/Closing Prayer

Closing Song *Old Rugged Cross*

*— Those who are able, please stand



**Welcome to
St. John's Church!**

Let Us Break Bread Together 213

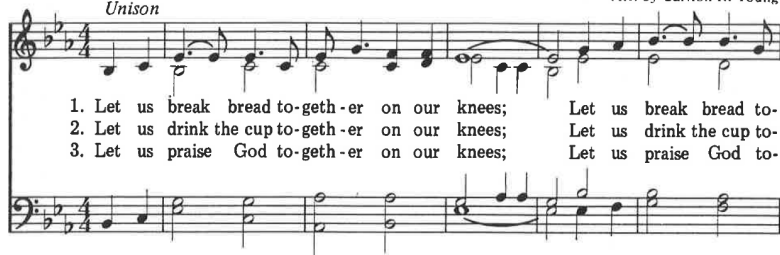
He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. Luke 24:30

LET US BREAK BREAD Irreg.

Traditional Spiritual

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. by Carlton R. Young

Unison

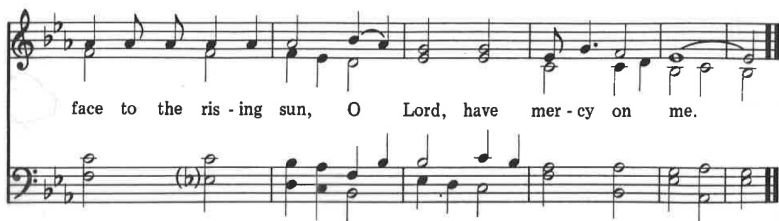


1. Let us break bread to-geth-er on our knees; Let us break bread to-
2. Let us drink the cup to-geth-er on our knees; Let us drink the cup to-
3. Let us praise God to-geth-er on our knees; Let us praise God to-

Refrain



geth-er on our knees.
geth-er on our knees. When I fall on my knees, With my
geth-er on our knees.



face to the ris-ing sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

"Let Us Break Bread Together", music by Carlton R. Young.
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On a Hill Far Away 236

Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame . . . Heb. 12:2

OLD RUGGED CROSS Irreg. Ref.

George Bennard, 1913

George Bennard, 1913

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross, The em - blem of
 2. O that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world, Has a won - drous at -
 3. In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine, A won - drous
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true, Its shame and re -

suf - fer - ing and shame; And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best
 trac - tion for me; For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove
 beau - ty I see; For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died
 proach glad - ly bear; Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,

Refrain

For a world of lost sin - ners was slain.
 To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.
 To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged
 Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share. cross, the

cross,
 old rug - ged cross, Till my tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the

old rug - ged cross, And ex - change it some day for a crown.
 cross, the old rug - ged cross,

"On a Hill Far Away", words and music by George Bennard.

Hope Publishing Company

CCLI #998654

Good Friday—you may watch a presentation of the church's Passion Play online or you may read through these scriptures and devotional.

Call to Worship

Psalm 22:1-3

My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?
Why are You so far from saving me,
from the words of my groaning?
O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.
Yet You are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

Scripture

Exodus 26:31-35

Mark 15:33-41

Sermon

The Eye of the Beholder

When Jesus died on the Cross, those who witnessed His death and its manner looked upon Him as an object of derision. Beaten and bloodied, gasping for breath, He quoted from the **22nd Psalm** and cried out, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Seemingly separated from God, this Man who claimed to be the Anointed One, fell into what appeared to be the abandonment of God.

But what do you see? Do you only see Jesus as glorious on Easter Sunday and at His Ascension later on? Do you see, even on the Cross, that Jesus is glorious and beautiful? What the world calls tragic is the place where God's wondrous work takes place.

Even though the results of brutal power and taken aggression were clearly seen in the body of Jesus, those powers are impotent. Apart from the story of Christ, many of those in power would have long been forgotten. However, Jesus' name lives on. Why? Because, through loving service and self-sacrifice, He defeated those who would have dominion over Him and over you and me. By taking into Himself the sin and death that is our judgment, He broke their bonds. At His death, curtain in the Temple was rent asunder (**Mark 15:38**), and Spirit of God was soon to be poured out upon humanity. At the

same time, we were enabled to draw near the throne of grace with confidence (**Hebrews 4:16**). By the blood sacrifice of Christ, we can now enter into the presence of God.

Now, we, like the centurion standing by the Cross, can behold something much differently than what the world sees. Now, we can proclaim even in the midst of pain and suffering and tragedy, “Truly this man was the Son of God!” (**Mark 15:39**)



If you would like to worship with us on Easter, our Easter Sunday Schedule (April 9) is as follows:

7 AM Community Sunrise Service – Boy Scout Lake small pavilion – bring a lawn chair

9:30 AM Sunday School Egg Hunt

10:00 AM Traditional Easter Festival Service