

Welcome and Introduction

***Call to Worship**

One: Come to this moment; God’s love is before us.

Many: We heed the summons that calls us to this time.

One: How do we prepare to receive Christ’s love?

Many: With humble acceptance of God’s grace.

One: Turn and receive the gifts that are offered.

Many: We are ready to partake of the gifts of the divine.

(read responsively)

Opening Song:

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

#275

Gospel Reading

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Deliver us, God, from the grip of our fears. It is so costly to follow Jesus. We do not want to risk our lives. We do not want to sacrifice our advantages. There are people we find it difficult to love. There are places we do not want to go. We find it hard to speak of our faith. Yet we are attracted to Jesus and want to be his disciples. Forgive us and help us to develop the self-discipline we need to follow Jesus, that we may not grow weary and lose heart. Amen.

Words of Assurance

One: Jesus welcomed imperfect people to the table and broke bread with persons of questionable reputation. We are welcomed at the table, not because we are worthy but because we are valued and forgiven.

Many: God, who created us, knows our potential. God provides for us this opportunity to grow in trust, commitment, and faithfulness. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:27-38

Meditation

“THAT Kind of Love!”

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration (prayed together)

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of betrayal Jesus commanded his disciples to love one another as he loved them. We thank you for feeding us in this supper. Give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all.

*Hymn:

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

#446

Closing Prayer (prayed together)

Holy Love, who came to us fearless and learned fear, who came to us exalted and embraced humility, and who came to us in spirit and clothed yourself in flesh and bone, we honor you and your many names. We offer you our hopes and fears, the experiences of our past and the path of our future, our worship and our wonderings. May we hear, see, taste, smell, touch, and know you more abundantly. May we share in you and in your love by sharing it with all for your glory. Amen.

Closing Hymn

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

#257

There is no Benediction because the events of this night do not conclude until Easter morning resurrection. Keep the faith in vigil through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please depart in silence.

The Call to Worship (adapted) is by Leigh Ann Shaw from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2025* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance (adapted) are by Lavon Bayler from *Taught By Love-Worship Resources for Year A*. The Consecration Prayer (adapted) is from *The Solemn Liturgy of Maundy Thursday* of the Washington National Cathedral . The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is by Laura Westby. The Closing Prayer (adapted) is by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*.

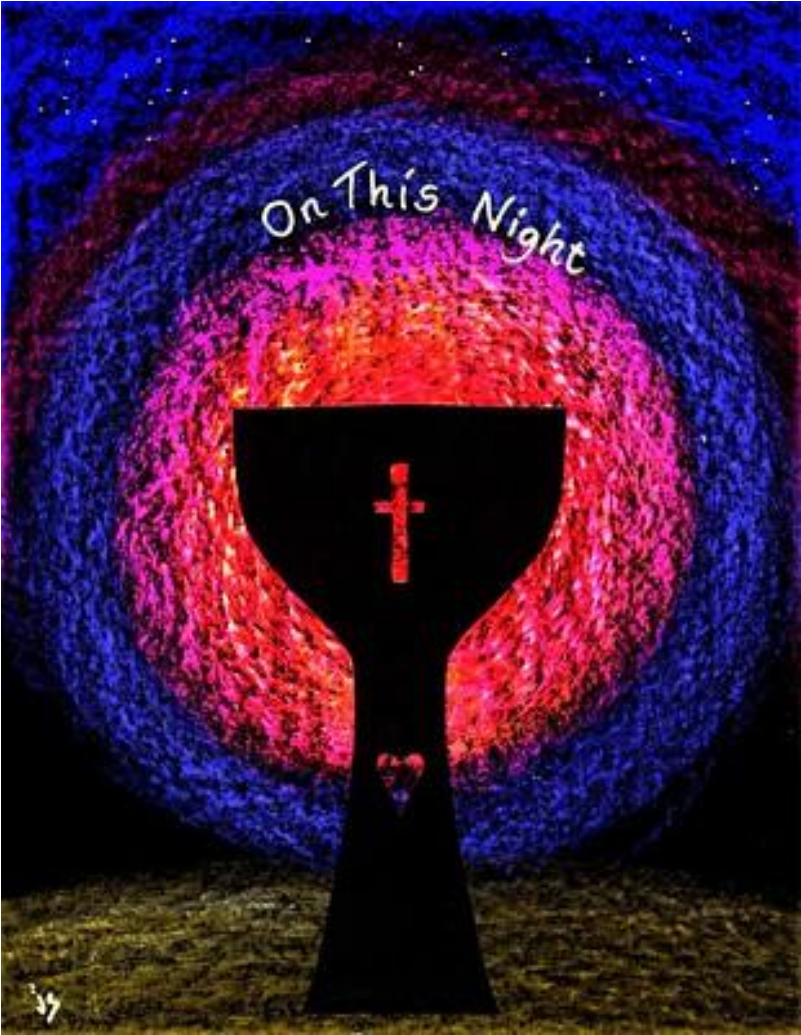
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Worship Leaders:	Pastor Chris Burtnett & Pastor Russ Jacobsen
Organist:	Antonia Rupert

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Friday, April 18:6:30pm. Good Friday Joint Worship at 1st United Methodist Church

Sunday, April 20: 10:30am.- Easter Sunday Worship with Communion



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