



First Presbyterian Church, Tonawanda, NY

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

Maundy Thursday Supper Church

April 6th, 2023

The people gather, the table is set

Welcome: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Call to worship:

In remembrance, we gather:

to be with the one who teaches us the meaning of faithfulness.

In remembrance, we worship:

lifting our voices to the one who calls us to love one another.

In remembrance, we feast:

breaking the bread which makes us whole, drinking the cup which fills us with grace.

Evening prayer:

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Song: Flesh and Bone

Matt Maher

Chorus: If I saw the world in your eyes, would it help me understand
how you see through all our eyes? Still you hold us in your hand. I'm dying to believe; I'm trying just to show
That we're less than perfect, More than flesh and bone.

Enjoy Supper

Conversation Topic: How is God calling you to grow?

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Gospel Reading: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Song: Were You There

Spiritual

228 Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine? (Were you there?)
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

there?) Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
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 there?) Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 there?) Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! Some-times it caus - es me to

trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you

Few hymns from any culture have captured the pathos of Jesus' crucifixion as movingly as this African American spiritual. Its emotional climax (and highest pitch) comes in the great "O!" at the center of each stanza, a moment that moves beyond anything words can convey.

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

WERE YOU THERE
 Irregular

Conversation Topic: What

would you say to Jesus?

Call to reconciliation:

How will people recognize us as followers of Jesus? Simply by how we treat one another. Let us confess our failure to love as Christ loves.

Prayer of forgiveness:

Creator and loving God, we have received all the gifts you have to offer, yet we are tempted to keep them all for ourselves rather than share them. Forgive us, Holy One, and have mercy on us. As you have broken your heart for us, may we open ours to serve others. As you have given your life for us, may we offer ours to bring healing to the world. As you have called us together around your table, may we go forth to feed a

world hungry, not only for food, but for that spirit which brings peace and reconciliation. This we pray as servants of Jesus Christ, who came to serve us in life, in death and in resurrection hope.

Time of silence

Assurance of pardon:

Thanks be to God, who forgives all who ask. Amen.

Communion

We come together today, children of God...

... Blessed to be united in our diversity.

All: We will come to this table and feast!

Prayer of Blessing

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

*Prepare to pass trays around table; each person first is served,
and then takes the tray and serves the next person.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving After Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

And forget not all God's benefits.

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Song: Jesus, Remember Me

Taize

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom (repeat)