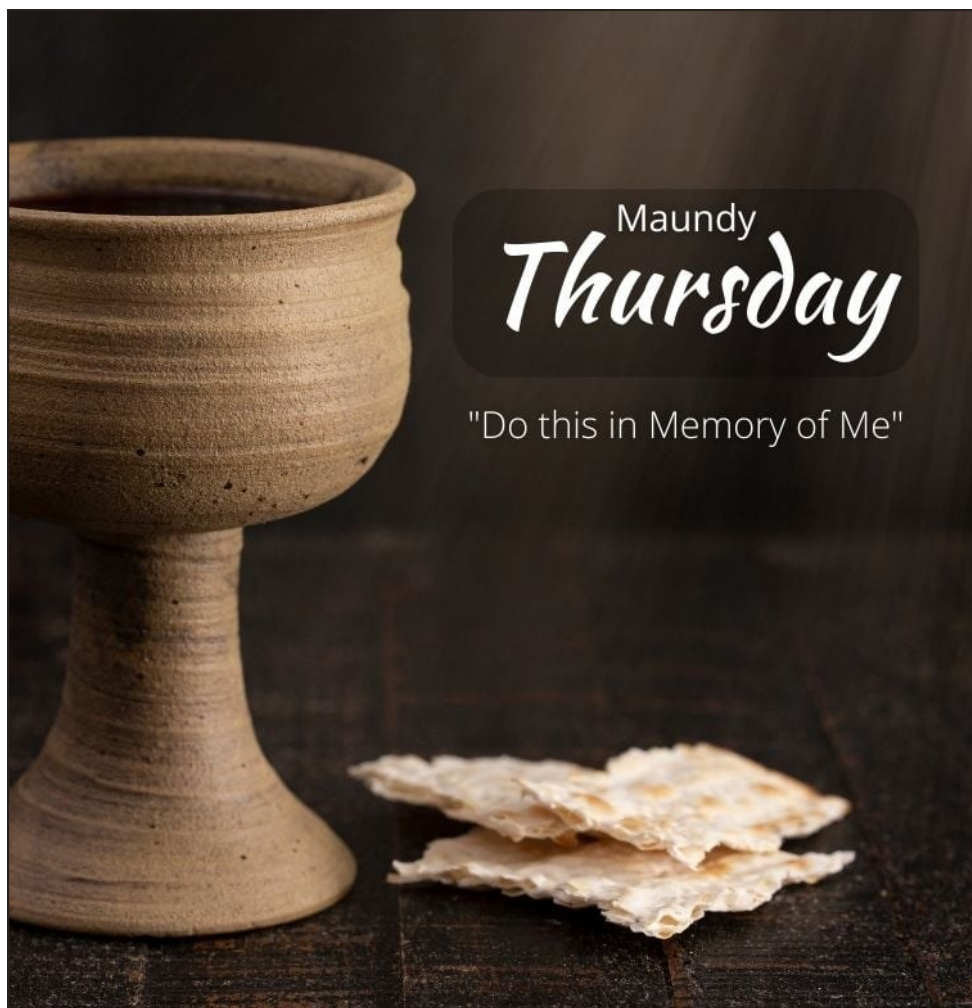




April 17, 2025 at 7:00pm



Worship with us In-person
Live-Streaming on Facebook and YouTube at
www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks
and on our website at
<https://www.fairfieldstmarks.com/live-stream/>

Welcome! We're so glad you're here!

To help us stay connected, please take a moment to complete the Attendance Pad located in each pew. Pass it along so others can do the same, and when it reaches the end, kindly return it to its place. As you do, take a moment to greet those around you!

() Indicated to please rise in body or spirit*

PRELUDE

Sue Combs

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are Jesus' disciples, following him even as he moves toward the cross.

People: Even as he wraps a towel around his waist. Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.

Leader: We are Jesus' disciples, longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

People: Even as betrayers loom. Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ press in around us.

Leader: We are Jesus' disciples, struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us.

People: We are Jesus' disciples, gathered here to worship God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Holy God, source and sovereign, you put all power and authority into the hands of Christ—Christ, who washes our feet in humble service. Teach us to love one another as Christ has loved us, so that everyone will know that we are his disciples; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.

Leader: Listen for the word of God.

People: Our hearts and minds are open. Amen!

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

***OPENING HYMN:** *He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought*

UMH 128

Epistle Lesson: I Corinthians 11:23-26

***HYMN:** *Let Us Break Bread Together*

UMH 618

Gospel Lesson: John 13:1-17, 31-35

***HYMN:** *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

UMH 290
(vs. 1-3)

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Mark

Confession of Sin

Leader: God's love for the world has been revealed in Jesus Christ, who certainly loved us to the uttermost; Jesus—Savior and Lord—who at his last meal with his disciples gave them—and us—that new commandment...

"Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Leader: Merciful God, we confess that so often our discipleship has been weak when we have failed to serve as Jesus served;

People: forgive us.

Leader: When we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us;

People: forgive us.

Leader: When we have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus with our lips and then denied him by our actions

People: forgive us.

Leader: Merciful God, empower us by your Spirit to be steady and true to you in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(May we each make our own silent confession before our Lord)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Jesus said: *"I came not to judge the world, but to save the world"* and *"having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end"*

The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ, we are loved and we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord our God, Sovereign of the universe...Therefore, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven, we join the song of unending praise, saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Most holy and merciful God, time and again we turned aside from your way and abused your gifts. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING THE BREAD

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN: *Were You There*

UMH 288

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: Christ has given us a new commandment: that we love one another, as Christ has loved us. By this, everyone will know that we are Christ's disciples, if we share that love with the world. And through this love, all things will be made new. Go now, and do as Christ commands.

People: Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

A Moment of Reflection: Maundy Thursday

*“Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,
you also should wash one another’s feet.”*

—John 13:14

On this sacred evening, we remember a quiet upper room where bread was broken in love, water poured in humbleness, and Jesus, knelt before His disciples—not in power—but in service, leaving us instruction to remember him:

- * *Who has quietly served you this week?*
- * *Where might you be called to love more deeply, more sacrificially?*

As we continue this Holy Week journey, may we carry the towel and basin in our hearts and walk the path of servanthood that Christ has laid before us. Amen.



St. Mark's United Methodist Church

4601 Fairfield Ave.

Fairfield, OH 45014

513.844.1818

www.Fairfieldstmarks.com

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