



The Worship of God ✦ March 28, 2024 ✦ Maundy Thursday

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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The First Baptist Church of Ahoskie is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship congregation.

A Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship Service

March 28, 2024 ✠ 6:15 PM

✠ *The Season of the Church Year: Maundy Thursday*

Maundy Thursday, observed by Christians on the Thursday before Easter, marks the Last Supper that Jesus shared with His disciples prior to His arrest and crucifixion. The word *Maundy* is derived from the Latin word “*mandatum*” meaning “commandment.” The primary commandment of Jesus’ message is found in the story of the Last Supper when Jesus humbles Himself to wash the disciples’ feet. He then commands them to “Love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34).

WELCOME & BLESSING OF THE MEAL

Dr. Dennis Bazemore

THE MEAL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Bazemore

Come and remember the love of Jesus, gathered at the table with His friends.

We come to receive from Christ the bread of life, the cup of blessing.

Come, receive the tender service Christ offers each of us;

We come to receive the challenge of the new commandment:

“Love one another.”

Come and contemplate the many temptations of a world that would entice us, like Judas, to betray the trust of a suffering God.

**We come to travel with Jesus the way of the Cross,
so that our Easter “alleluias” will take on new meaning.**

Let us worship together and reflect upon the life of Christ, that we might remember what discipleship may cost, and what it may reap.

HYMN

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

NEAR THE CROSS

Jesus, keep me near the cross: there a precious fountain,
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calv’ry’s mountain.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Dr. Bazemore

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 116:12-14

Rev. Anita Thompson

This is the word of God for the people of God;

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

NEAR THE CROSS

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.



CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Thompson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Thompson

Living Christ, on that night long ago, You knew that Your hour had come. You knew full well what lay ahead of You. Your disciples loved You and followed You, but they had also failed You. They would fail You yet again that night, and one would betray You. Yet You lovingly washed their feet, as a servant would – even the feet of Your betrayer.

We have also loved You and followed You.

We have also failed You.

**We cannot comprehend the love that You show us,
the love that is our example,**

the love that tells us to do as You have done for us.

So this is our prayer:

May we be like You, Loving Christ, each a servant of all.

May everyone we meet see in us the faithful disciple we are striving to be.

May we love one another just as You have loved us.

In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Thompson

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.

Thanks be to God!

HYMN

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

NEAR THE CROSS

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star shed His beams around me.
In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

