

Sermon Notes:

Faith
Presbyterian
Church

March 29, 2018
MAUNDY THURSDAY

**A CONGREGATION OF THE
ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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PRELUDE

Leader: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and holy Spirit. And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

Response: Amen.

***Call to Worship-** Ps. 22:22-26

A Prayer of Martin Luther: “O Lord, increase our faith. Gladly and truly we would think of you as our dearly beloved Father, and Christ as our brother. Help our unbelief, so that we may accept your Word as truth and glorify your name. O Lord, end our captivity. Redeem us, for we are the firstborn of your new creation. As redemption has been perfectly and sufficiently accomplished through Christ, so may we fully and truly know and accept it. As by your mighty hand the sea was dried up by the parching wind, so let everything of our remaining bondage vanish. Amen.”

***Hymn (Man of Sorrows)** Trinity Hymnal, 175

Confession of Sin # 1 (INSIDE FRONT COVER)

The Assurance of Pardon: John 17:1-3

***HYMN (Not What My Hands Have Done)** Trinity Hymnal, 403

A Reading from the Westminster Larger Catechism (1647)-

Question: How did Christ humble Himself in His death?

Answer: Christ did humble Himself in His death, in that having been betrayed by Judas, forsaken by his disciples, scorned and rejected by the world, condemned by Pilate, and tormented by his persecutors...

having also conflicted with the terrors of death, and the powers of darkness, felt and bore the weight of God’s wrath, he laid down his life an offering for sin, enduring the painful, shameful, and cursed death of the cross.

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 22:1-19

A Reading from Article 21 of the Belgic Confession [1561]:

When [Jesus] sensed the horrible punishment required by our sins “his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” He cried “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” And He endured all this for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore we rightly say with Paul that we know nothing except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. We regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord. We find all comforts in His wounds and have no need to seek or invent any other means to reconcile ourselves with God, than this one and only sacrifice, once made, which renders believers perfect forever. This is also why the angel of God called him Jesus—that is “Savior”— because He would save His people from their sins.

New Testament Reading: John 13:1-20

A Reading from Benjamin Keach’s “Jesus” (see insert)

Prayer: Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Sermon: Matthew 26:36-46, Jesus’ Dark Night of the Soul

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Hymn (O Sacred Head Now Wounded) Trinity Hymnal 178

Benediction

“Jesus”- A poem by Benjamin Keach (1640-1704)

**Look upon Me, and see My Love descending;
Tis from eternity, and has no ending.
Canst thou have more, O soul? Thou hast My heart,
Whatever is Mine, to thee I will impart.**

**Thy scarlet sins are washed quite away,
Not one of them unto thy charge I'll lay.
Pull up thy drooping heart, be of good cheer,
Thy sins, though never so great, forgiven are.**

**I able am to save to the uttermost
All those who do put in Me all their trust.
Those who do come to Me, I in no wise
Will cast them out; therefore lift up thine eyes;**

**Behold My hands and feet, and do not doubt,
For I have washed and cleansed thy soul throughout;
Thy debts I've paid, and quitted the old score,
Thy former faults I'll never remember more.**

**Cheer up thy heart, I tell thee, thou art Mine.
My blood was shed to save that life of thine.
With endless love thy soul I'll satisfy,
And in My bosom shalt thou ever lie.**

**In my unfolded arms I now thee take,
And do engage; I'll never thee forsake.
In sickness I'll be with thee until the end.
And death at last, I'll cause to be thy friend.**

**Making its final passage unto thee,
Only an entrance to felicity;
When with great glory thou shalt crowned be,
Seated forever on the throne with Me.**

**The world, death, nor the devil shall remove
My heart from thee; for those I truly love,
I love to the end; come, soul, and be
Blessed in My arms to all eternity.**

Keach, Benjamin. *War with the Devil*.
London: Printed for E. Johnston, 1771, pp. 77-78

