

I. The Meal

INSTRUCTIONS: All are invited to fill their plates with food. Enjoy the food and fellowship. We will share a brief liturgy and reading at the end of the meal.

II. Prayer of Thanksgiving and Prayer of Confession

- Reader 1 We gather on this night to remember Jesus' last night with his disciples. Friday is a day of mourning, reflecting on the death of the Messiah at the hands of jealous men. Saturday is a day of waiting, pondering the mystery of a tomb that is soon to be empty. Sunday is a day of joyful excitement, proclaiming the Resurrection.
- Reader 2 Today is Thursday; a day to remember what Jesus lived for. It is a day to remember how he loved, what he taught, and how God's steadfast love was revealed through him.
- Reader 1 Today is Maundy Thursday. Maundy comes from the Latin "command." So today we remember what Jesus commanded us to do. As we enjoy this great feast set out before us, we will recall Jesus' words and deeds. We will recall the response of the disciples, who all fell away, and we will leave with a prayer for us all to remain awake through the very end.
- Reader 1 On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and said,
- All: "Where do you want us to prepare for you the Passover meal?"**
- Reader 2 He replied, "Go into the city, to a certain man, and say, 'The teacher says, 'My time is near. I'm going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'" The disciples did just as Jesus instructed them. They prepared the Passover.
- Reader 1 Let us pray together and give thanks for our fellowship and food.
- All: Gracious God, we gather at the table- as friends, as strangers, as those who are hungry in more ways than one. We give thanks for what is before us, and for the grace that meets us here. Send your Holy Spirit to fill each of us with joy and gratitude. As we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he suffered, shared bread and cup with his friends, prepare our hearts to receive these gifts. Through these simple things, remind us of your love and the life you offer us. Amen.**
- Reader 2 Jesus said, "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love. This is my commandment: Love each other."
- All: This is our commandment. To love each other.**
- Reader 2 Jesus said, "No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends... I give you these commandments so that you can love each other."

- Reader 1 Before Jesus and his disciples gathered for the meal, there was one who had taken matters into his own hands. For thirty pieces of silver, Judas had agreed to hand Jesus over to the chief priests. From that moment on, Judas was looking for the right time to betray Jesus.
- Reader 2 "I assure you, one of you will betray me."
- All: I'm not the one, am I, Lord?**
- Reader 2 "The one who will betray me is the one who dips his hand with me into this bowl."
- All: Judas said, "It's not me, is it, Rabbi?"**
- Reader 2 "You said it."
- Reader 1 Let us confess together:
- All: Merciful God, we confess that we have betrayed you. We have denied you. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will; we have broken your law; we have rebelled against your love; we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**
- Reader 1 Hear the good news: when Christ gathered with his disciples to remind them of his love, he knew that he gathered with the one who betrayed him, the one who would deny him, and all who would abandon him. This proves that Jesus loved them, even when they failed him, and he loves us still today. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

III. Sharing the Bread and Cup

- Reader 1 On the night in which he was betrayed, and while they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said,
- All: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you."**
- Reader 2 And when the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, shared it with His disciples and said,
- All: Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.**
- Reader 1 And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
- All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Reader 2 Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

At this time, share the bread and cup with those around you at the table. You may simply say to your neighbor, "The Christ in me sees the Christ in you."

IV. After the Meal

Reader 1 After the meal, Jesus and his disciples went to the Mount of Olives. In great anguish, Jesus went to pray. None of the disciples could stay awake. When Jesus returned he found them sleeping because of grief moments after they had pledged their undying loyalty. It wasn't long before crowds started to gather again.

Reader 2: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as if I were a thief? Day after day I sat in the Temple teaching, and you did not arrest me.

All: Then all of the disciples deserted Jesus, and fled.

Reader 1 Get up. Let's go. Look, the hour is at hand. It is time to depart from this place. Tomorrow is another day to remember and reflect on all that Jesus did and gave for us. Go now and remember Jesus' last commandment: to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go in peace, transformed by Christ's commands.

All: This is our commandment: To love each other. We will go in peace and wait. We will try to stay awake.

Good Friday Service - Tomorrow night, 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Services

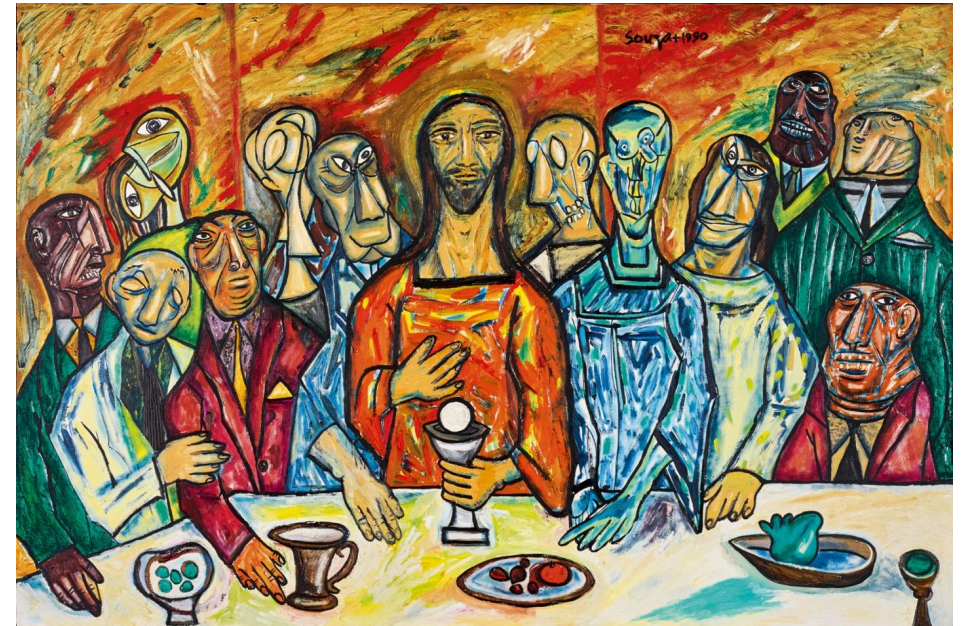
6:30 am Sunrise Service Bicentennial Park

8:30 am Worship

10:30 am Worship



Maundy Thursday: A Liturgy
April 2, 2026
6:00 PM



Francis Newton Souza's 'The Last Supper', a reinterpretation of Leonardo Da Vinci's late 15th-century mural

At the center of each table is bread, juice, and a candle.

There are four main parts to our gathering tonight:

- I. The Meal: people are invited to gather their food and eat together***
- II. Prayer of Thanksgiving and a Prayer of Confession***
- III. The Bread and the Cup: After everyone is done eating their supper, there are readings for the Words of Institution, a prayer of invocation, and we will share the bread and cup with one another at each table***
- IV. After the Meal***