

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006**

**Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor  
Director**

**Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music**



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**Pastor Viv**

*Holy God, remind us on this special evening of the many ways we know you: as strong deliverer, as humble servant, as the One who bids us love one another. Let us remember together your words and your example. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Christ's love is poured out for us  
**like water poured into a basin.**  
 Christ's love washes us clean.  
**Christ's love shows us who we are to be,**  
 and what we are to do.  
**How blessed we are to know such love!**

**\*HYMN # 292**

**"What Wondrous Love Is This"**

**1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,**

when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
 when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
 to God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
 to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,  
 while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
 while millions join the theme, I will sing.

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.  
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me,  
 and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,  
 and through eternity I'll sing on.

#### WASHING OF HANDS

*Please come forward to have your hands washed at the altar railing.*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we your Church confess  
 that often our spirit has not been that of Christ.  
 Where we have failed to love one another as He loves us,  
 where we have pledged loyalty to Him with our lips  
 and then betrayed, deserted, or denied Him, forgive us, we pray;  
 and by your Spirit make us faithful in every time of trial.

*A time of silent confession.*

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. But Christ suffered and died for us,  
 was raised from the dead and ascended on high for us, and continues to intercede for  
 us. Believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE

**John 13: 1-17, 31b-35**

**Joan Olszewski, Reader**

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2 The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that

he had come from God and was going to God, 4 got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." 9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10 Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." 11 For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

#### The New Commandment

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR**

**"The Upper Room"**

**D. Besig & N.Price**

**THE MESSAGE**

**LIKE A SERVANT**

*"For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you." v.15*

**CHOIR**

**"Scenes From Gethsemane"**

**J.P. Williams & J.M. Martin**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER**

God invites us to the table.

All are welcome, even those with their own agenda.

Christ serves us at this meal.

All may partake, even those who feel unworthy.

All are welcome; all are served; all are loved.

On the night of his arrest,  
 the Lord Jesus took bread and broke it, saying:  
**“This is my body, given for you. Remember me.”**  
 As Jesus gave thanks to God,  
 we also give thanks for his sacrifice.  
 Take and eat this bread in memory of Him. *Eat the bread.*

On that same night, in the same way,  
 the Lord Jesus took the cup, saying:  
**“This is my blood, poured out for you. Remember me.”**  
 As Jesus gave thanks to God,  
 we also give thanks for this new covenant.  
 Take and drink in memory of Him. *Drink the cup.*

When you eat this bread and drink this cup,  
 remember the Lord Jesus. Remember and be thankful.  
 Remember until he comes!  
**Remember us when you come, Lord Jesus!**  
**Thanks be to God!**

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**SOLO**                                    **“Today Thou Shalt Be With Me in Paradise”**                                    **Myrtle Connell**

#### **\*BENEDICTION AND DRAPING OF THE CROSS**

Go in peace. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever. **Amen.** *All leave in silence.*

**\*Stand as able.**

**Communion Steward this evening is Joan Oszewski.**

#### **CALENDAR**

**Sunday, April 9**

**10 AM EASTER WORSHIP**

**11 AM Children’s Egg Hunt in Memorial Garden**

**FISH N CHIP TAKEOUT DINNER** ticket sales have begun on the church website, [caldwellchurch.org](http://caldwellchurch.org) The dine in or take out is Sunday, April 30.