



MAUNDY THURSDAY

"LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AS I LOVED
YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE
ANOTHER."

JOHN 13:34

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ
Rapid City, South Dakota
www.refirstucc.com**

Maundy Thursday

Service of Light and Shadows

March 24, 2016

✠ Invites worshipers to stand in spirit or body as they are able.

Call to Worship:

- One: God is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear?
All: God is the strength of my life: whom shall I dread?
One: I am seeking your presence, O God.
All: Do not abandon me to my foes. There are people who hate me; there are things that control me; there are places that frighten me.
One: Trust in God. Stand fast and have courage.
All: Help us this night not to fall away. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and give us the courage to withstand.

Organ Prelude:

Michael Ross, organist

Words of Welcome and Introduction

The Service of Light

Invocation:

- One: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Let us pray:
All: Gracious God, you give us the sun to illumine the day and the moon and the stars to shine by night. Kindle in us the flame of your love that our lives may shed abroad the radiance of your light and the world may be full of the splendor of your glory; through Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness. Amen.

Lighting the Candles:

- One: O Gracious Light, Pure brightness of the eternal Creator in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and Blessed!
All: Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold your vesper light, we sing your praises, Holy God, One in Trinity.
One: You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Christ of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

One: Let us pray:

All: Spirit of Christ, be with us now. We may try to avoid this hour of trouble; we may not stay awake. Help us to face our fear of the cross on which you died. Help us face the crosses we must carry to honor your life.

Silence for Personal Confession

One: Let us continue:

All: We are your disciples. And we, too, follow you with confusion and fear. Strengthen us, we pray, so that we may walk through life into death without fear; through the night into eternal light. Amen.

The Service of Holy Communion

Reading The Mandatum Novum (*New Commandment*)

John 13: 34-35

We will serve in groups of 12. You are invited to come and be seated at the table with others in turn.

All bread is gluten free.
All juice is alcohol free.

The choir will sing as the first two groups come to the table.

Anthem

Holy Eucharist

Toolan

After the second group has been served, we will sing one verse of the hymn after each group is served.

Hymn

Just as I Am

NCH 207

The choir will be served in the choir loft.

The Service of Shadows

Anthem:

God So Loved the World

Stainer

Readings:

Shadow of Betrayal

Matthew 26: 20-22, 25

Shadow of Desertion

Matthew 26: 31a, 33-35

Agony of the Soul

Luke 22: 39-44

Unshared Vigil

Mark 14: 32-41

Father/Mother, the Hour Has Come

John 17: 1-4, 6

That They May Be All One

John 17: 15-18

Arrest in the Garden

John 18: 1-5

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the king-
dom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Hymn

Were You There?

NCH 229

First verse only

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

The Promise

John 14: 15-17

There is no Benediction because the events of this night do not conclude until Easter morning resurrection. Keep the faith in vigil through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please depart in silence.