

**NATRONA HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**An Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

Order of Worship, Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7 PM

The Rev. Richard Harbaugh

Website: www.nhpcusa.com

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*“The Last Supper is meant to picture not only the fulfillment of past promises of God and the present impending death of Jesus, but just as much the assured future of an even greater meal in the coming kingdom of God.” –Thomas R. Schreiner*

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GATHERING TO WORSHIP THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION OF HEARTS

THE PRELUDE **“How Deep the Father’s Love For Us”**

THE WELCOME

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

LEADER: Christ’s love is poured out for us like water poured into a basin.

PEOPLE: **CHRIST’S LOVE WASHES US CLEAN.**

LEADER: Christ’s love shows us who we are to be, and what we are to do.

PEOPLE: **HOW BLESSED WE ARE TO KNOW SUCH LOVE!**

\*THE HYMN **“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” No. 185**

THE ACTS OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

**Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace. And hear us now, as we bring to you our private and personal confessions on this Maundy Thursday evening.**

THE SILENT CONFESSION

THE DECLARATION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – Getty, Getty & Townend

**“Behold the Lamb”**

THE WORD

THE SCRIPTURE READING

**Luke 22:1:23**

THE MEDITATION

**“The Last Meal Together”**

–The Rev. Richard Harbaugh

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE GRACIOUS INVITATION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

THE PRAYER OF APPRECIATION

\*THE HYMN **“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” No. 178**

THE TENEBRAE

THE 34 BELLS

THE DEPARTURE IN SILENCE

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\*Please stand if you are able

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*“When Jesus wanted to explain to his disciples what his death was all about, he didn’t give them a theory, he gave them a meal.” – N.T. Wright*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE COMMUNION SERVICE this evening. This service is held to commemorate the foot washing and the Last Supper of the

disciples with Jesus. We thank you for coming and joining us to remember these important events in our history.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped to make this service possible for our congregation.

THANK YOU to our liturgists, Deb Lehew and Doug Deemer.

PLEASE NOTE the nursery is closed this evening for this special service.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: On Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, please feel welcome to join together with other congregations at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Brackenridge for a Good Friday service that will be held from noon until 3 PM. This service is sponsored by the Allegheny Valley Association of Churches and features pastors from many local churches. Join us for a service of prayer and God's word as we gather together in community. Come for part or all of the service! We hope to see you there!

THE EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE begins at 10 AM on Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. The message title for Sunday's sermon is "Two Different Stories" and the scripture comes from Matthew 28:1-15. Please don't keep this service to yourself, bring a friend or family member with you. Share the experience with your loved ones—we'd love to have them join us!

