First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

14391 Minnieville Road Woodbridge, VA 22193 703.670.7834 fupcdc.org LIKE us on Facebook Find us on Instagram @fupcdc <u>https://www.youtube.com/c/FUPCDC</u>



Maundy Thursday Worship March 28, 2024 7:00 PM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor <u>Adam.Bowling@fupcdc.org</u> 828.448.8914

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

The Old Rugged Cross Dr. Nadia Carmichael, Pianist Rev. G. Bennard

WELCOME

Rev. Adam C. Bowling

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

We are Jesus' disciples, following him even as he moves toward the cross. Even as he wraps a towel around his waist. Even as he kneels to wash the filth from the feet of his friends.

We are Jesus' disciples, longing to be faithful even as the night grows dark.

Even as betrayers loom. Even as the powers that oppose the way of Christ press in around us.

We are Jesus' disciples, struggling to love others even as Jesus loved us. We are Jesus' disciples, gathered here to worship God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

+ OPENING SONG An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

202

CALL TO CONFESSION

How is it people will recognize us as followers of Jesus? Simply by how we treat one another. Let us confess how we have not loved as Christ loves us, praying together. . .

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (John 13)

Loving Christ, on that night long ago, you knew that your hour had come. You knew full well what lay ahead of you. Your disciples loved you and followed you, but they had also failed you. They would fail you yet again that night, and one would betray you. Yet you washed their feet, as a servant would, even the feet of your betrayer. We have also loved you and followed you. We have also failed

you, and we cannot comprehend the love that you show us, the love that is our example, the love that tells us to do as you have done for us.

May we be like you, Master, servants of all. May all see how we long to be your faithful disciples. May all see how we love each other, just as you have loved us. Hear us now, as we continue to confess, in the silence of our hearts. . .

(A Time of Silent Confession)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (John 13)

Now the Son of Man, the One who loves us, is glorified. In Him, God is also glorified.

The One who loves us gives us a new commandment: to love one another!

As the Lord has loved us, you are to love each other. Let all see this love among us, and glorify God. Let all see how we belong to Christ!

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE

We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, give us the wisdom of Your Spirit to understand and receive the depth and breadth of the love that Christ showers upon us. Bless this reading of Your Word that we might be transformed by its grace.

Amen.

447

GOSPEL READING

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' ¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. ²²For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!' ²³Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SONG

Bless the Lord

(Taizé) 544

GOSPEL READING Luke 23:32-47 NRSV (selected verses)

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him ... The soldiers also mocked him ... One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will bewith me in Paradise." Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent."

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE The Gospel of the Nobodies: The Thief on the Cross Rev. Adam C. Bowling

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

If you would like to speak with someone about becoming a Christian, about church membership, or about a special prayer need, please speak with Pastor Adam or someone at the Welcome Table right outside the sanctuary. For those worshiping online, please email Pastor Adam at <u>adam.bowling@fupcdc.org</u>. Know that ALL are welcome in this place!

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE What Wondrous Love Is This

215

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Instructions: Please come by way of the center aisle when an usher indicates to receive communion. All the bread is gluten free. Please partake of the elements when you receive them, and dispose of your cups in the baskets provided. You may return to your seats by way of the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward please notify an usher, and a server will bring communion to you in your row. Know that ALL are welcome to the Table of the Lord.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

Albert Hay Malotte

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music during Communion	Let Us Break Bread Together	525
	Eat This Bread (Opt. A)	(Taizé) 527

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

+ SENDING	HYMN
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Were You There

228

+ CHARGE

The cross,	
we will take it.	
The bread,	
we will break it.	
The pain,	
we will bear it.	
The joy,	
we will share it.	
The Gospel,	
we will live it.	
The love,	
we will give it.	
The light,	
we will cherish it.	
The darkness,	
God shall perish it!	
BENEDICTION	Rev. Adam C. Bowling

+ BENEDICTION RESPONSE Jesus, Remember Me (Taizé) 227

Please leave prayerfully and in silence.

⁺ Please stand in body or in spirit.

March 29, 2024 Good Friday - Prayer Vigil 10 AM - 2:00 PM

March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday Worship - Communion Traditional Worship service 8:30 AM 252 Kids Children's Ministry 8:45 AM Easter Breakfast 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship service 11:00 AM 252 Kids Children's Ministry 11:15 AM Easter Egg Hunt (after 11 AM worship)