

Maundy Thursday  
7:00 pm, Union-Congregational Church

An Ecumenical Worship Experience  
Waupun United Methodist Church (Rev. Steve Miller)  
Union-Congregational Church (Rev. Jacob Nault)

Gathering Music

Laurie Vant Hoff

Welcome

Pastor Jacob

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 116:1-9, 12-13 Pastor Jacob

*\*=The congregation is invited to rise if it's comfortable for them to do so.*

I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

**Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"**

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**The Lord preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**

Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

**For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living ...**

What shall I render to the Lord for all God's benefits to me?

**I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord!**

**\*Opening Hymn: W&R #257 What Wondrous Love Is This**

Confession and Absolution

*The congregation may be seated.*

Pastor Jacob: John and his brother James were Jesus' disciples. They believed in their Lord and Savior, but they sought the glory of the kingdom and hoped to place themselves above others when Jesus ruled in glory. There would be glory to come, but the cross and suffering would come first. Let us repent of our own prideful, glory-seeking ways, confessing our sins and asking for forgiveness.

**All: Almighty God, we confess that we often seek glory for ourselves and our own plans. We are not always willing to suffer for Jesus' sake. We want attention for ourselves instead of seeking to glorify our Lord. Seeking to shun suffering and loss, we do not live in humble service to others in Jesus' name. We look to our own interests and needs ahead of the needs of others. Have mercy on us and forgive us.**

Pastor Steve: God looked on us in grace and sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus laid aside his glory to be born among us, to live in humility and to suffer and die for the sins of the world. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Empowered by his grace and forgiveness, we follow in our Lord's steps as we live in love and humble service in his name.

**\*Hymn: W&R #422 Amazing Grace (v. 1-2)**

Jeremiah 31: 31-34 (NRSVUE)

Pastor Jacob

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

**\*Hymn: W&R #422 Amazing Grace (v. 3-4)**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NLT)

Pastor Steve

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.

**\*Hymn: W&R #422 Amazing Grace  
(v. 5-6, verse 6 written below as it is not in our hymnal)**

**Verse 6:**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who called me here below,  
Will be forever mine.**

Mark 10: 35-45 (NRSVUE)

Pastor Jacob

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you

are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

**\*Hymn: W&R #405 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (v. 1-2)**

Message

Pastor Steve Miller

**\*Hymn: W&R #405 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (v. 3)**

Great Thanksgiving and Communion

Pastor Jacob: Friends, just as Jesus did not hesitate to share the cup of wine with Judas, who he knew would betray him to the authorities, Jesus invites all of us, no matter our pain, our despair, our failures and faults. Jesus says, come and eat with me for this grace can transform you. And so this night you are invited, just like in that Last Supper, to share the food that nourishes our spirits on the journey. We remember his words that echoed that night to his disciples and that have echoed through the ages, "I am always with you."

Pastor Steve: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor Steve: Let your hearts be lifted even in the heaviness of your sorrow and fear.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor Steve: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor Steve: In the midst of the events of the last week, the disciples had really floundered. It started out fine, with excitement really, as they had entered Jerusalem with crowds following along, saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of power and might!**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor Steve: But that excitement turned to doubt, questions, confusion, fear. This Jesus was the one who had proclaimed a message they could all believe in, the disciples thought. This was the one who had come to fulfill the scriptures, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when God would save the people.

And then that moment had come. The moment when Jesus said the words...

Pastor Jacob: On that night that he gave himself up for the message of peace, of hope, of justice... the night he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, O God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you."

And for the first time his next words send a chill down their spine: "Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor Jacob: When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Sung Response: "Come to the Table of Grace"

*Pastor Steve has sheet music; it's not in our hymnal.*

**Come to the table of grace**

**Come to the table of grace**

**This is God's table, it's not yours or mine**

**Come to the table of grace**

Pastor Steve: We eat and drink of this meal tonight, especially remembering the death of Jesus. But we also know "the rest of the story." We know that what emerges from death is always life. And so we proclaim this night to each other and the world...

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pastor Jacob: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here this night, just as you did on our ancient ancestors. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine. Let them be for us the body and blood of Christ so that may be for the suffering world the body of Christ, liberated by his witness, passion and resurrection. Let us die to the ways of injustice so that we may live again in your promise. Let us be inspired to proclaim hope, peace, love and justice in your name.

Pastor Steve: By your spirit we are one with Christ, whose memory... whose presence was real to his disciples and is real to us even now. By this spirit we are one with each

other. Let this love be seen in us outside of this place. And all God's people say "Amen!"

Pastor Jacob: I invite you to receive these gifts of bread and juice from where you are at this time, as we sing together.

Sung Response: "Come to the Table of Grace"

*Pastor Steve has sheet music; it's not in our hymnal.*

**Come to the table of grace**

**Come to the table of grace**

**This is God's table, it's not yours or mine**

**Come to the table of grace**

The Lord's Prayer (unisons, debts/debtors\*)

Pastor Jacob

*Be welcome to use any translation which connects you most deeply to the spirit of 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn: W&R #719 Go, My Children, With My Blessing**

Benediction (Mark 10:42-45; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

Pastor Jacob: You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.

**All: For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

Pastor Steve: Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all.

**All: Amen.**

Sending Music

Laurie Vant Hoff