

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

*We celebrate communion today by means of intinction, meaning "to dip."*

*You are invited to come forward, receive the bread, dip it in the juice,  
and partake as you are ready,*

*returning to your seat for a time of prayer and contemplation.*

*If you are unable to come forward for communion,  
please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.*

*All of the elements are gluten-free.*

Music During Communion

"Let Us Break Bread Together" COMMUNION SPIRITUAL

"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross" NEAR THE CROSS, arranged by John Arnn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" HAMBURG, arranged by John Arnn

Prayer after Communion

\*Hymn #102

"Were you There?"

WERE YOU THERE

\*Stripping of the Church

*Recognizing the darkness that fell over the world as Jesus Christ was crucified,  
in the final verses of the hymn*

*the church will be stripped of its most significant symbols.*

*Afterwards, we are asked to depart in silence to contemplate what is ahead.*

**Worship Leaders**

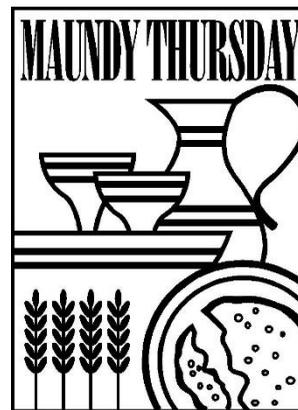
Anna Pinckney Straight, Pastor

Calvin A. McClinton, Music Director

Bridgett Edwards, Organist

Nixon Brown and Kate Lehman, Liturgists

Please join us on Sunday morning at 11:00 for worship,  
a celebration of Easter Sunday!



**Old Stone  
Presbyterian Church**  
Lewisburg, West Virginia  
March 29, 2018  
7:30 P.M.

Prayer in Preparation for worship, by Ruth Burgess<sup>1</sup>

*I will walk in the wind to meet you Jesus to let you wash my feet.*

*I don't want to.*

*I would rather stay here in the warm, away from your towels and water  
and offers of forgiveness, for I know what you mean,  
what you ask, what you give.*

*But I will come, for I cannot stay here alone, and I cannot run elsewhere,  
for I know that you are waiting, welcoming.*

*And I know that only you can heal me and hold me.*

*So I will come with empty hands to your supper, empty hands and dirty feet.*

*I will come as your guest and with water, bread and wine  
you will make me whole and set me free to serve you.*

Prelude "O Come and Mourn With Me Awhile" KEDRON, arr. Evelyn Morrison

Words of Welcome and Call to Worship

†Hymn #93

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

†Call to Confession

†Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that so often our discipleship has been weak.

When we have failed to serve as Jesus served;

**forgive us.** *(silent confession)*

The prayer in preparation for worship is by Ruth Burgess, from Eggs & Ashes, published by Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community, Fourth Floor, Savoy House, 140 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3DH, UK.  
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The prayer of confession is from [http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/html/maundy\\_thursday\\_c.html](http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/html/maundy_thursday_c.html)

When we have failed to love one another as Jesus loves us;

**forgive us.** *(silent confession)*

When we have been happy to proclaim our devotion to Jesus with our lips and then denied him by our actions;

**forgive us.** *(silent confession)*

Merciful God, empower us by your Spirit to be steady and true to you in every time of trial; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

†Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Anthem "Not My Will, But Thine" Stephanie Bachman, recorder

Gospel Reading: John 13: 1 - 17, 31b - 35

Meditation: "The Gathering, the Gathered "

Anthem "Behold Him in Dark Gethsemane" Gary Williams, timpani

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Great and Mighty, Vulnerable and Merciful God, we praise you and we should praise you. You created us and all that we see and know. You are The creator. You have given us bread and the fruit of the vine, the earth that has grown and nourished the wheat, and cool water to grow the grapes. You have blessed the hands that knead and bake. You have made us. You

made each of us in Your image, in Your love. You have claimed us, adopted us all as your children, caring for our every need, in every way we let you.

Each time we give in to our wants instead of yours, you show us how to release ourselves from bondage. Throughout time you have been the way of liberation, the way of love. In Egypt, you sent Moses to guide us to the promised land.

In the wilderness, you fed us manna in the wilderness, and brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey.

When we forgot that You had done these things, you did not give up on us, instead, you sent prophets to remind us.

Finally, when we refused to understand that compassion was what You wanted from us, you sent Jesus to be the most clear pronouncement of your way for all time.

Jesus showed us what it means to obey you. Jesus showed us what it means to love our neighbors. We've been there when he prayed and healed and cried, and in all things, rely on you. We've seen Jesus do this, and we've also seen him get taken over by our fear, crucified by our denial.

When we wander and wonder, Jesus' life, given for us, becomes our manna. Through his suffering, Jesus has transformed this cup into the cup of salvation.

When we eat this bread and this cup, bring us into communion with You and into the promise of eternal life.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who seek to be his disciples, that we may be one in ministry in every place. Accept our lives as we offer them. Give us strength to serve you without wanting credit or our own way, until the promised day of resurrection, when, with the redeemed of all the ages, we will feast and celebrate with You.

We want to be in communion with You, and as we open our hearts and begin our journey to your table, we pray as Jesus taught,

**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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**