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North Haven
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



North Haven, Connecticut
An Open & Affirming Congregation

**NORTH HAVEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:00 p.m.

**The Vigil of Maundy Thursday
The Sacrament of Communion & Service of Tenebrae**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *When Jesus Wept*

Charles Callahan

***OPENING HYMN:** “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare” **V130**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP:** (based on Ps. 27) ***

Leader: God is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear?

PEOPLE: God is the strength of my life: whom shall I dread?

Leader: Your presence, O God, I am seeking.

**PEOPLE: Abandon me not to my foes, for deceivers rise up to
oppose me, breathing out violence.**

Leader: Trust in God. Stand fast and strengthen your courage.

ALL: Do not leave me or forsake me, O God, my salvation!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:~*unison*

Spirit of Christ, be with us now. Guide us in the hour of trouble; awaken us when we sleep. Help us to face the cross upon which you died for our sakes; help us to face the crosses we must carry. For we are your disciples – we will follow you even in fear and fainting, if you will consecrate us in truth, both spirit and flesh. Lead us through life and into death. We know that nothing can separate us from the love of God in you. Amen.##

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:~*unison*

Ever gracious God, we gather this evening hour as friends gathered with Jesus in an upper room long ago. We come bearing the marks of a bitter and broken world. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us in the breaking of the bread of our need and of your sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in mutual service and closer to you in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. As the night advances, deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us in Jesus Christ, our friend and redeemer. Amen.## ~ *silent confession*~

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Nearer, My God, To Thee*

Sung by the Chancel Choir American Hymn Tune, Bethany

Dr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872) arr. Georgiann H. Tooole (b. 1958)

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross
that raiseth me. Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to
thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee.

Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down, darkness be over
me, my rest a stone; yet in my dreams I'd be, nearer, my God, to
thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee.

Now on joyful wing cleaving the sky, sun, moon, and stars
forgot, upward I fly, still all my song be, nearer, my God, to
thee; nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 13:1-17, 31b-35 p. 1251

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

HERE ENDS THE READING. THANKS BE TO GOD.

GIFT OF MUSIC: *Ave Verum Corpus* Holy Communion Hymn

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

Sung by the Chancel Choir

Translation: Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for humankind,
from whose pierced side
flowed both water and blood:
Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet]
in the trial of death.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation and Consecration

Distribution

Communion Hymn: “Jesus, Remember Me” **V148**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

HYMN: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” **V593**

PRAYER

The Service of Tenebrae

The Shadow of Betrayal: Matthew 26: 20-25 John Tibor
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

The Shadow of Desertion: Matthew 26: 31-35 Kathy Harple
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

Hymn: “O Sacred Head” v.1 **V145**

The Agony of the Soul: Luke 22: 39-44 Sue Compton
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

The Unshared Vigil: Mark 14: 32-41 Priscilla Maldonado
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

Hymn: “O Sacred Head” v. 2 **V145**

Father, The Hour Has Come: John 17:1-6 Heather Mastracchio
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

Silence That They May All Be One: John 17: 15-22 Carol Amico
Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

Hymn: “O Sacred Head” v. 3

V145

The Arrest in the Garden: John 18:1-5,12

Sandy Carter

Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

The Shadow of the Cross: Mark 15:16-20

Cathy Welch

Silence

Extinguishing the Candle

Final Reading: Selections from John 1 and 3 (paraphrased)

Scott Morrow

Darkness

Silence

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Worship Leaders Recess in Silence

*Those who are able, please stand.

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Please join us for the following services:

Noon Prayer on Good Friday (in-person and livestream) – 12:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise (in-person only!) – Gazebo on Town Green 6:00 a.m.

Easter Worship (in-person and livestream) - 9:30 a.m.

You are invited to bring cut flowers to decorate the cross in front of the church beginning Saturday at noon.

Take a picture and send it to churchoffice@northhavenucc.org. We’d love to have a collection of Easter flower pictures to share!

*OPENING HYMN: "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare" V130

1. An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare for those he
 2. A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own: to share his
 3. And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet, for ser - vice,
 4. No end there is! We de - part in peace, he loves be -

loved un - til the end: and his dis - ci - ples still
 bread, his lov - ing cup. What - ev - er bur - dens may
 too, is sac - ra - ment. In Christ our joy shall be
 yond the ut - ter - most: in ev - ery room in our

gath - er there to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.
 bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.
 made com - plete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.
 Fa - ther's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

***HYMN: "Jesus, Remember Me" V148**

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

HYMN: "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

V593

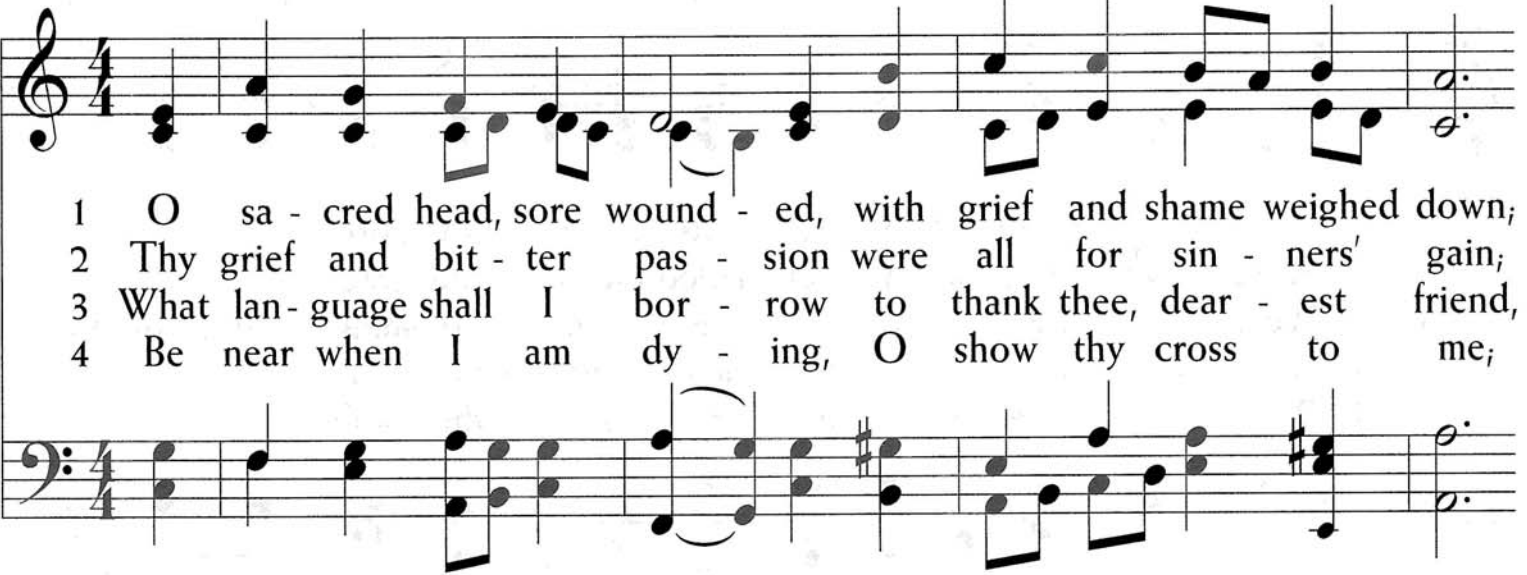
Refrain (Unison)

Je - su,* Je - su, fill us with your love, show

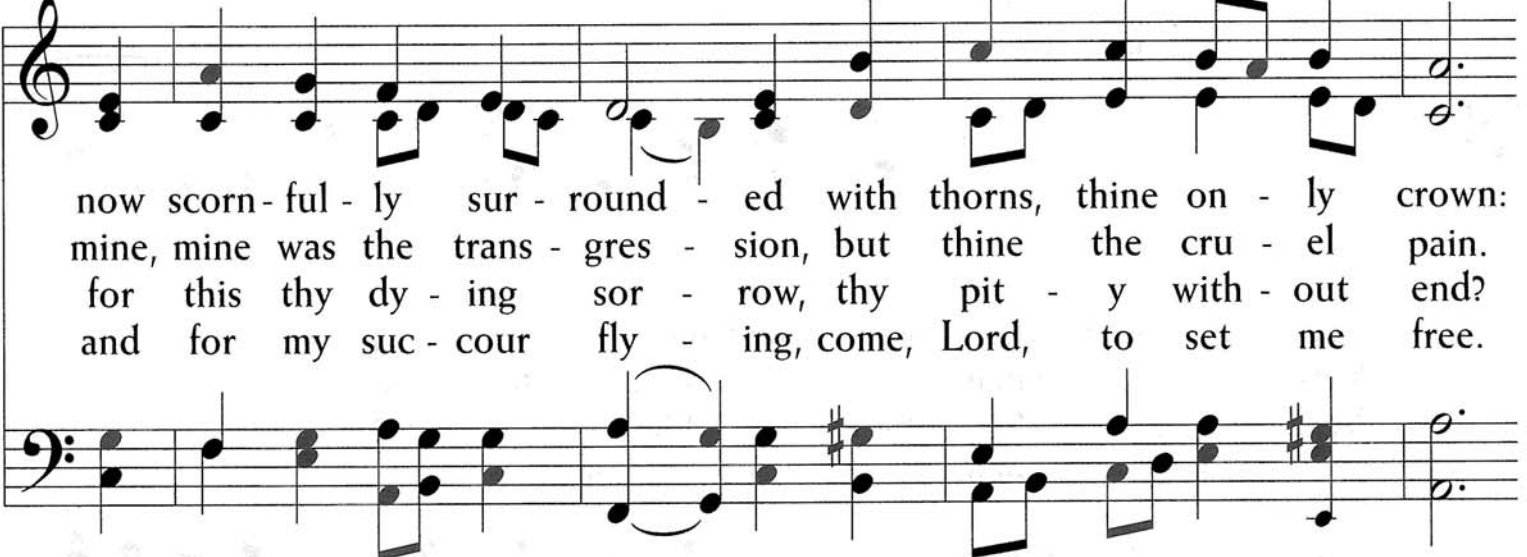
us how to serve the neigh - bours we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
 2 Neigh - bours are rich — and poor, var - ied in col - our and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

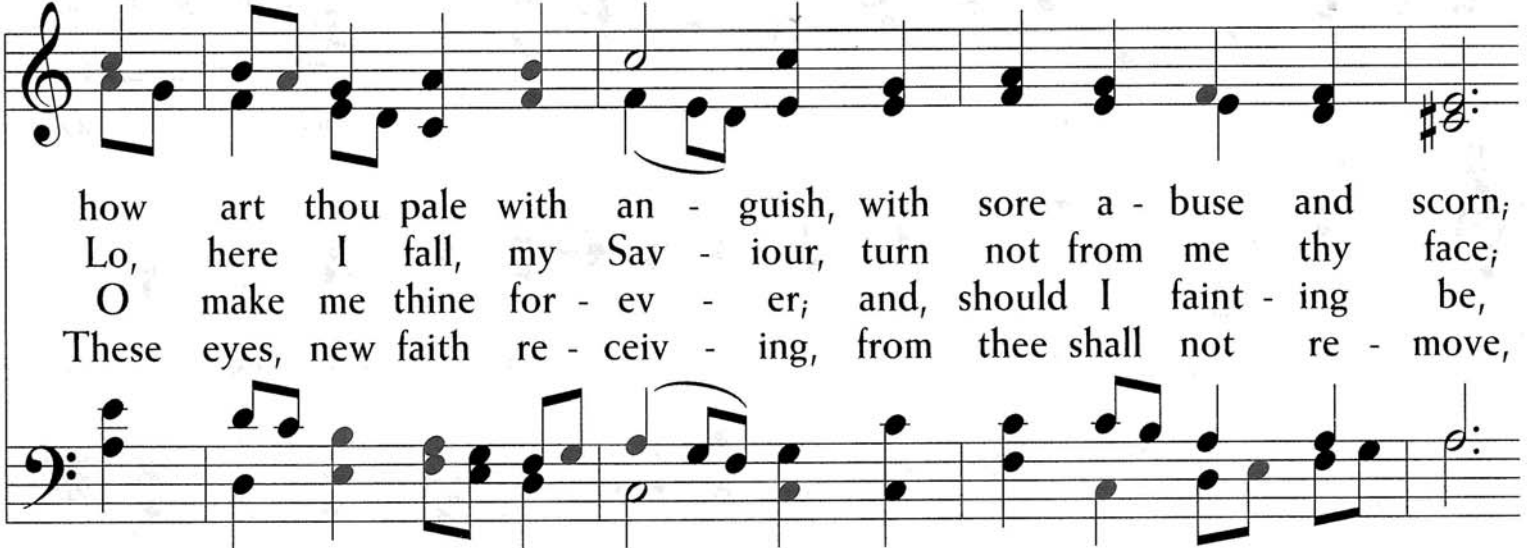
feet, mas - ter who acts as a slave — to them.
 race, neigh - bours are near — and far — a - way.
 love, all — are neigh - bours to us — and you.
 feet, this is the way we should live — with you.



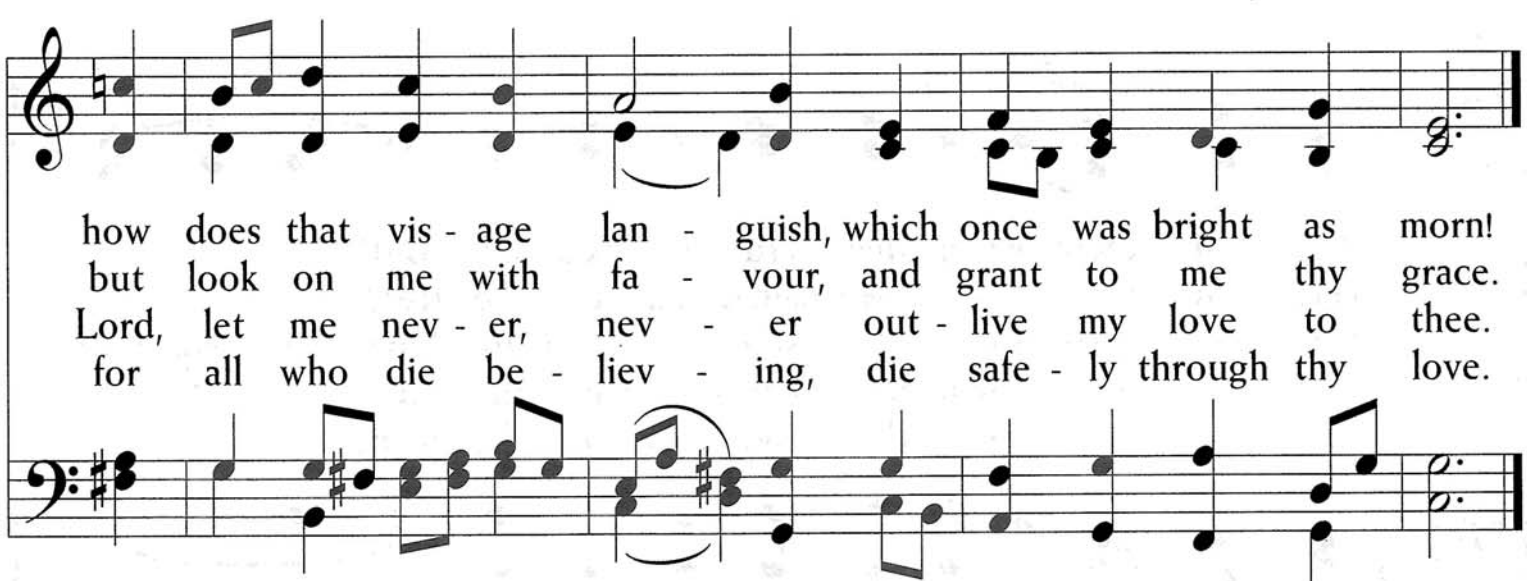
1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Be near when I am dy - ing, O show thy cross to me;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown:
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the cru - el pain.
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 and for my suc - cour fly - ing, come, Lord, to set me free.



how art thou pale with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - iour, turn not from me thy face;
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and, should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall not re - move,



how does that vis - age lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 but look on me with fa - vour, and grant to me thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing, die safe - ly through thy love.