



*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

Meditation John 13:34

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment,
That you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Call to Worship

Leader: We come to the house of God, filled with fear and worry.

People: Wash away our fears, O God.

Leader: We come, having been on this Lenten journey, tired and care-worn.

People: Wash away our exhaustion, O Holy One.

Leader: We come, seeking hope and peace in our lives.

People: Wash away our sins, O Great Comforter, and give us peace. Amen

Hymn: The Servant Song

E \flat A \flat E \flat Cm Fm7 B \flat

1, 6. Will you let me be your ser - vant, Let me be as Christ to you;
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, We are trav - 'lers on the road;
 3. I will hold the Christ-light for you In the night-time of your fear;
 4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
 5. When we sing to God in heav - en We shall find such har - mo - ny,

A \flat B \flat 7/F E \flat A \flat E \flat Fm A \flat B \flat 7 E \flat

1, 6. Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my ser - vant, too.
 2. We are here to help each oth - er Walk the mile and bear the load.
 3. I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long to hear.
 4. I will share your joy and sor - row 'Til we've seen this jour - ney through.
 5. Born of all we've known to - geth - er Of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

An Act of Hospitality and Service: The Washing of Hands

Bible Reading: John 13:3-5, 12-15

Jesus, knowing that God had given all things into his hands, and that he had come forth from God and was going back to God, got up from supper, and laid aside his garments; and taking a towel, he girded himself.

Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded. So when he had washed their feet, and taken his garments and reclined at the table again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" You call me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

U-bi ca-ri-tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri-tas De-us i - bi est.

Agape Meal: The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there."

They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

U-bi ca-ri-tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri-tas De-us i - bi est.

The Shadow of Betrayal

Luke 22:39-53

And he came out and proceeded as was his custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed him.

When he arrived at the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and he knelt down and began to pray, saying, "Abba, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."

Now an angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him.

And being in agony he was praying very fervently; and his sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

When he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, and said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

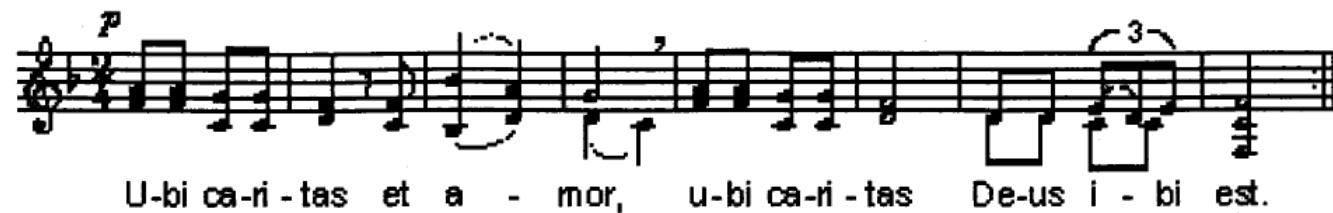
While he was still speaking, behold, a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was preceding them; and he approached Jesus to kiss him.

But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

When those who were around him saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus answered and said, "Stop! No more of this." And he touched his ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders who had come against him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as you would against a robber? While I was with you daily in the temple, you did not lay hands on me; but this hour and the power of darkness are yours."



The Shadow of Denial:

Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. But when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

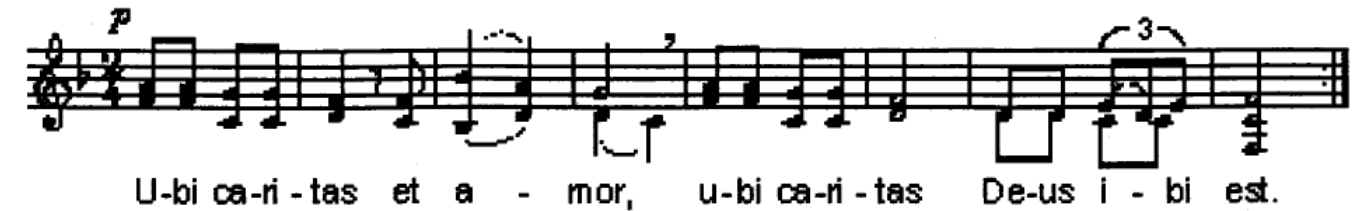
A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. Jesus turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the words that Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. They blindfolded him and demanded, "Prophecy! Who hit you?" And they said many other insulting things to him.



The Shadow of Condemnation

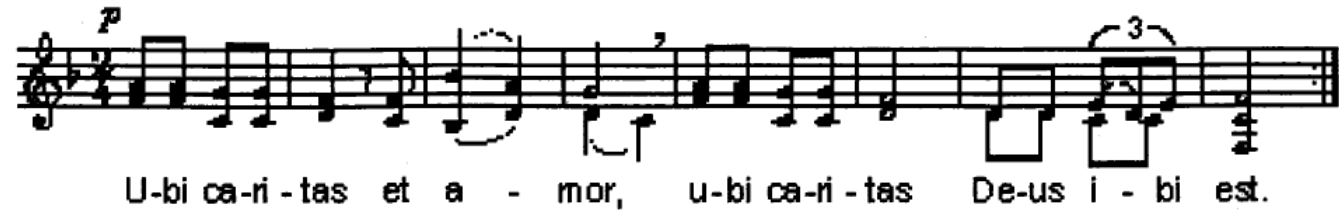
Luke 22:66-71

At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them. "If you are the Christ," they said, "tell us."

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I asked you, you would not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God."

They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?" He replied, "You say that I am."

Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips."



The Shadow of Accusation

Luke 23:1-12

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Christ, a king."

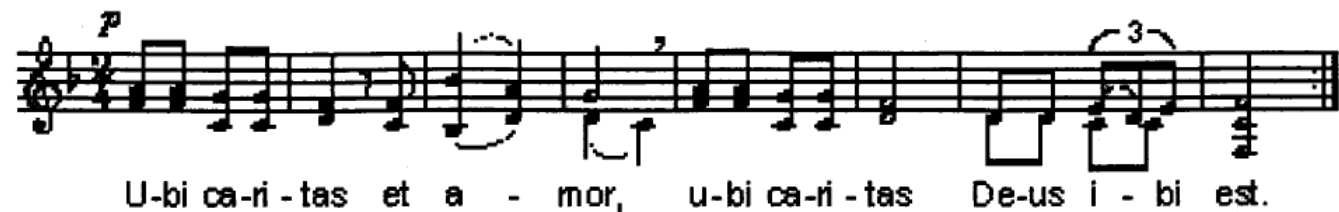
So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"
"You say so," Jesus replied.

Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here."

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform some miracle. He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.



The Shadow of Hatred

Luke 23:13-25

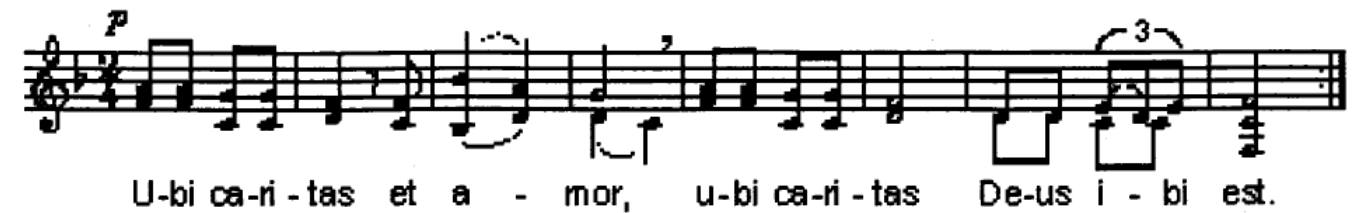
Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him."

With one voice they cried out, "Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!" (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.)

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

For the third time he spoke to them: "Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him."

But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.



The Shadow of Lament

Luke 23:26-31

As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the barren women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then 'they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' 'For if men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?'"

U-bi ca-ri - tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri - tas De-us i - bi est.

The Shadow of the Cross

Luke 23:32-43

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

Hymn: Were You There?

Were You There?

WERE YOU THERE Irregular

African-American spiritual

African-American spiritual
Arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)
3. Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)
4. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? Oh!
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they pierced Him in the side? (Were you there?)
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

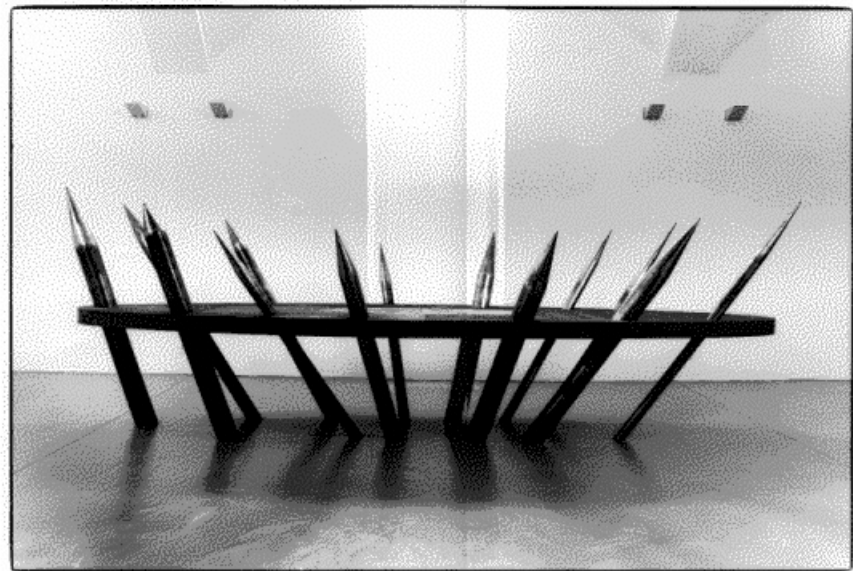
The Shadow of Death

Luke 23:44-49

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Abba, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

U-bi ca-ri - tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri - tas De-us i - bi est.



Words About Our Maundy Thursday Service

Maundy Thursday is traditionally observed as an institution of the Lord's Supper. This evening, the lessons are read to retell the last days of Jesus and to remember his words to his disciples, his suffering, and his crucifixion. After each reading, a candle will be extinguished so that we may progressively enter into darkness.

Finally, after the last reading, the bell will toll as we silently meditate in our hearts for the light of hope on Easter. At this time, your prayers are your own, for the concerns that are in you and upon your heart. After a few minutes, the lights will be turned up enough so that you may safely exit the sanctuary in silence, when you are ready to do so.

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House

Maundy Thursday, 2011