

# MAUNDY THURSDAY



**Evangelical Reformed  
United Church of Christ**  
15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701  
**-An Open and Affirming Congregation-**

**April 1, 2021**

**7:30 p.m.**

## TENEBRAE COMMUNION SERVICE

*This service has three main parts:*

*A Service of Light-- based on the traditional Vespers service in which we recognize  
Christ our Light;*

*A Service of Holy Communion in which we are invited to participate as one of  
The Twelve at the Last Supper;*

*A Service of Shadows--Tenebrae--in which we meditate on the Passion of Christ and  
experience in dramatic form the extinguishing of the Light.*

**Prelude** *Were You There*

-- Spiritual, arr. C. Marohnic

**\*Call to Worship** *(in unison)*

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

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

One: I am seeking your presence, O God.

**All: Do not abandon me to my foes. There are people who hate me;  
there are things that control me; there are places that frighten me.**

One: Trust in God. Stand fast and have courage.

**All: Help us this night not to fall away. Strengthen our faith, increase our  
love for one another, and give us the courage to withstand.**

**\*Hymn** *Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face*

- No. 336, stanzas 1, 2,3  
*See insert*

**Words of Welcome and Introduction to the Service**

**Invocation for the Service of Light**

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Gracious God, you give us the sun to illumine the day  
and the moon and the stars to shine by night.**

**Kindle in us the flame of your love  
that our lives may shed abroad the radiance of your light  
and the world may be full of the splendor of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness. Amen**

**Hymn** *Christ Be Our Light*

- B. Ferrell

**Refrain sung by all:**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.**

**Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Prayer at the Lighting of the Candles**

One: O Gracious Light, Pure brightness of the eternal Creator in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and Blessed!

**All: Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold your vesper light,  
we sing your praises, Holy God, One in Trinity.**

One: You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Christ of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**Lighting of the Table Candles**

**Prayer of Confession**

One: Let us pray:

**All: Spirit of Christ, be with us now.**

**We may try to avoid this hour of trouble; we may not stay awake.**

**Help us to face our fear of the cross on which you died.**

**Help us face the crosses we must carry to honor your life.**

**Silence for Personal Confession**

One: Let us continue:

**All: We are your disciples. And we too follow you with confusion and fear.  
Strengthen us, we pray, so that we may walk through life into death  
without fear; through the night into eternal light. Amen**

**Reading the Mandatum Novum (New Commandment)**

**John 13: 34-35**

*(The origin for the name Maundy Thursday)*

**Anthem** *Think of Me and Remember*

- J. Raney  
*ERUCC Singers*

