



Sunset United Church

April 6, 2023
Maundy Thursday



*Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,
is an Affirming community of faith.
All are welcome here.*

Welcome

Centering Time

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: May the love of God be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

One: As we gather on this holy night,

All: **We can tell that something is about to happen.**

One: The shadows of the setting sun grow longer,

All: **and darkness encroaches on our lives.**

One: The night on this night seems deeper;

All: **Our friend, our teacher will soon be leaving us.**

One: But there is much to be done, and he still has much to tell us

All: **The time is urgent, let us prepare, let us remember, let us worship.**

One: Let us pray

All: **Gracious God, even though our time and place is so very different from what those first followers experienced, we take the time we've been given to sit with Jesus. Long ago the disciples sought answers and so do we. They didn't know what to expect from their friend and neither do we. They met with urgency, grasping at the time they had left and so now, we ask you to grant us an urgent spirit. There is no more time to wait, this moment is all we have to be your people, spread your Good News, and worship you our God.**

We pray to you who is our mother and 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU#278 In the Quiet Curve of Evening¹

**In the quiet curve of evening,
in the sinking of the days,
in the silky void of darkness, you are there.**

**In the lapses of my breathing,
in the space between my ways,
in the crater carved by sadness, you are there.**

You are there, you are there, you are there.

**In the rests between the phrases,
in the cracks between the stars,
in the gaps between the meaning, you are there.**

**In the melting down of endings,
in the cooling of the sun,
in the solstice of the winter, you are there.**

You are there, you are there, you are there.

**In the mystery of my hungers,
in the silence of my rooms,
in the cloud of my unknowing, you are there.**

**In the empty cave of grieving,
in the desert of my dreams,
in the tunnel of my sorrow, you are there.**

You are there, you are there, you are there.

Scripture Reading Exodus 12:1-14

Hymn VU#131 If Our God Had Simply Saved Us²

***'Dayeinu' (pronounced Die-yea-noo) is a Hebrew word meaning 'enough.'**

**If our God had simply saved us,
merely brought us out of Egypt,
only opened up our prison: Dayeinu!***

**If our God had split the Red Sea:
made a way through walls of water,
only opened up the waters: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had kept our feet dry,
kept our heads above the waters,
kept us safely without drowning: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had brought us over,
led us safely on to dry land;
(even though it was a desert): Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had only led us,
only gone ahead to guide us,
given cloud and fire to lead us: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had only brought us
to the awful fire at Sinai:
filled us all with dread at Sinai: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had spoken to us
only one word through the thunder
merely whispered on the mountain: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had given to us
less than Ten Words as prescription
simply told us: 'Take the tablets!': Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had laid the law down:
tabled in the words by Moses,
only given us the Torah: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had given us manna,
daily sent down bread from heaven,
simple manna in the desert: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had only given
seventh day for joy and gladness,
without all the rest to help us: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had from a mountain
let us glimpse the land of promise,
only gaze across the Jordan: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**If our God had, through the river,
led us to dry bread and water
and not laid on milk and honey: Dayeinu!**

**If our God had fed us only:
feasted us upon the mountain -
not inviting all the neighbours: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!
Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!**

**But, our God, who holds the banquet,
calls the whole world into freedom:
opens up the new creation: Dayeinu!**

Refrain **Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,**
(x2) **Dadayeinu, dayeinu, Dayeinu, dayeinu!**
 Dadayeinu, dadayeinu,
 Dadayeinu, dayeinu, dayeinu!

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

Reflection

Hymn VU#480 Let Us Break Bread Together

**Let us break bread together on our knees,
let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees,
let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us praise God together on our knees,
let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.**

Holy Communion

One: God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up our hearts.

All: **We lift our hearts in prayer.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: **It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer Response VU#948 O God, Hear My Prayer³

**O God, hear my prayer, O god, hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.**

**O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.**

Share the Meal

Hymn VU#130 An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare⁴

**An upper room did our Lord prepare
for those he loved until the end:
and his disciples still gather there
to celebrate their risen Friend.**

**A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

**And after supper he washed their feet,
for service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:
sent out to serve, as he was sent.**

**No end there is! We depart in peace.
He loves beyond the uttermost:
in every room in our Father's house
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.**

Blessing and Sending



Minister: Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)



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