

Holy Week 2010 at San Marino Community Church

Join the church family as we conclude our Lenten journey
and celebrate the events of Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae Service

Thursday, April 1, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

One of the primary steps as we walk with Jesus toward the suffering of the cross and the glory of the resurrection is Maundy Thursday, a day of love shown and love commanded. It commemorates Jesus' meeting with the disciples in the Upper Room, just hours before his death. When they all gathered together, Jesus showed his love to them by washing their feet (see John 13:1-17). He did this not only to demonstrate his love, but also to model how they should love one another. In fact, the name 'Maundy' (note the spelling: the word ends in '—dy' not '—day') comes from the Latin word *mandatum* which means 'commandment.' It is based on Jesus' words in John 13:34, 35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." This was also the night when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, so we celebrate communion as a part of our service.

This year we celebrate Maundy Thursday with a Tenebrae service. The word "tenebrae" is Latin for "shadows." The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional experience of Jesus' trial and crucifixion (also known as his "passion") by moving from light to darkness in the sanctuary. The service consists of the customary elements of worship, but also includes numerous Scripture narratives, each one assigned to a different reader, reciting Jesus' final hours. But the essence of the service is the experience of moving from light to darkness. We begin with the church lit by candlelight. There are as many candles as there are readings, plus a white Christ candle. Following each reading the reader will extinguish one of the candles, until only the Christ candle remains. Then the Christ Candle is hidden, symbolizing the apparent victory of the forces of evil over good, leaving the congregation in near complete darkness—and near complete devastation. We ask the congregation to leave in silence, meditating on the suffering that Christ endured for our sakes. The purpose of the service is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events. This better prepares us to experience and celebrate the wonder of Easter.

Good Friday Quiet Afternoon Apart

Friday, April 2: lunch 12:30 pm; meditative afternoon 1:30 pm– 4:30 pm

Enrich the experience of Easter by setting apart time to reflect on Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Come for a simple lunch and fellowship. Please stay and experience quiet, readings, music, and art designed by the Rev. Karen Berns. Walk with Jesus through Biblical "stations of the cross" beginning in Christ Chapel at 1:30 pm. \$5 for lunch; \$5 for handouts. Contact the church office at (626) 282-4181 x 10 or EFarrar@smccpby.com for reservations to guarantee enough soup and resources are available for all. Please pre-register!

Easter Sunday Worship

Community Sunrise Service, 7:00 am, Lacy Park – Director of Christian Education Jennifer Baer will preach and students will lead an experiential worship service.

Sunday Worship, 9:15 and 11:15 am, Sanctuary – Rev. O'Grady will preach, the choirs will sing with brass instrumentalists and organ accompaniment, and a special children's Sunday school program will be held at both worship services.

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