

The Breadmaker

Take 3 cups of flour says the recipe ...

We thank you, Lord, for flour:
flour made from wheat or other grain,
grown in the mystery of the earth, ripened in the warmth of the sun;
ripened, then cut down at the harvest by the farmer's skill,
ground by the miller, sold by the shop assistant,
placed in the bowl...
we thank you, Lord, for flour.

We thank you, Lord, for salt:
Jesus told us we were to be salt of the earth,
and we must never lose our flavor.
The salt, which adds flavor to our food,
is also antiseptic to our wounds,
reminding us of the challenge to our faith
and the healing power of Jesus ...
we thank you, Lord, for salt.



We thank you, Lord, for yeast:
that small yet living organism that enables the bread to rise,
that reminds us of the fact that even small works done in Jesus' name
can enable the kingdom to grow ...
we thank you, Lord, for yeast.

We thank you, Lord, for water:
water, without which none of us could live,
water, which forms the other elements of our bread into dough,
which, having risen, and been formed and drawn into shape by human
hands, is baked to give us the staff of life;
water, which cleanses and renews us, refreshes and revives us,
the water of baptism, which commits us to our faith ...
we thank you, Lord, for water...

We thank you, Lord, for bread:
Bread, the basis of the food we eat,
bread for toast, for sandwiches, for bread and jam,
bread for bread pudding and bread for buns –
and bread that is broken and shared in communion with one another,
in remembrance – remembrance of that night when Jesus sat with his friends at supper,
and broke the bread and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body broken for you.”
We thank you, Lord, for bread.

Table Talk

a Maundy Thursday Service



First Christian Church
Peoria, Illinois
April 6, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday

**indicates standing, if able*

Prelude – *Savior, Your Dying Love*—Lowry/Smith

Brian Woods

Welcome

Karen Merrick

***Call To Worship**

Becky Sisk

God calls us to a feast! The table is set,
**and we will come from east and west,
from north and south to sit at Christ's table.**
Compassion, love, and grace are poured out like fine wine.
We come to share our stories and Your story,
The table is set, so come let us worship God together!

**As We Gather at Your Table (Nettleton) vs. 1*
*As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own
Teach us through his holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.*



The First Last Supper

Dave Sinn



Hymn

We Come To This Table (vss. 1 and 2)—C W Gillette
Tune: *We Gather Together* (Kremser)

Table Talk--

Table of Love: Zacchaeus' story <i>I Come with Joy</i>	vs. 1	#420	Karen Merrick
			Jenny Tripses
Table of Inclusion: Alexander Campbell's story <i>I Come with Joy</i>	vs. 2	#420	On Screen
Table of Connection: Sharon Watkins' story <i>I Come with Joy</i>	vs. 4	#420	Chere Peters
Table of Wonder: Buzz Aldrin's story <i>I Come with Joy</i>	vs. 5	#420	Aldine Allen
Table of Peace: Rick Lowery's story <i>I Come with Joy</i>	vs. 3	#420	Sandy Surface

Litany: The Breadmaker (words on back) Connie Sinn

Our Place at the Table

Invitation: *Remember Me*—Lloyd Larson Sanctuary Choir
Prayer for the Bread and Cup Jenny Tripses
Welcome Statement:
**Here we celebrate that all people are welcome at this table
of God's grace.**
Distribution of elements (Please hold)
Meditation on "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"—Mason/Dixon
Scripture: Matthew 26:26-30
Partaking together

Offering: 30 pieces of silver Mike Buckley
*(In recognition of our own ways that we turn away from God, all are welcome
to share 30 pieces of silver, any loose change, or any offering in any form.)*
Music: *Give Me Jesus* – Mason Fitch, Solo
Dedication of Offering

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**
As We Gather at Your Table (Nettleton) vs. 3
Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

***Postlude** – *Go to Dark Gethsemane*—Redhead/Giamanco