



# Bedford Presbyterian Church

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021 at 7 PM

*Worship-at-a-Distance Format*

## GATHERING TOGETHER

Chimes

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor John Sawyer

## PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

Elder Fran Bader

Do you remember. . . ?

With all of this in mind, I invite you to join me in our opening words:

**Tonight we will hear, again and again, of a love that knows no bounds. May we be fully present here. May we worship holy God.**

Hymn # 202 (see below) "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare"

O WALY WALY

vv. 1-3

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

**Holy God who holds us together, if I were to place myself at your table, I would probably be Peter — misunderstanding your radical hospitality, sticking to the rules, arguing what I do and don't deserve. Then again, it's possible that I'd be Judas — the one who betrayed you, the one who failed to see the good right in front of him, the one who might have thought he wasn't worthy of your love. If I were to place myself at your table, it's possible I would be one of the unnamed disciples — watching, but not speaking, silently missing the opportunity to tell you what I believe and how much I love you. If I were to place myself at your table, I am confident that I would have made the same mistakes your well-intentioned disciples made. There is no surprise there. What is surprising is that I know you would have washed my feet, nonetheless. So, forgive me, God. Wash not just my feet, but my hands and my head also. Amen.**

Family of faith, Jesus knew that Peter would deny. He knew that Judas would betray, and he knew the disciples would hide in fear. And still—*and still*—he invited them in. He washed their feet, and he fed them. Friends, we worship the living Christ whose love shocks, surprises, and far exceeds our understanding of love. So may this story tonight remind us:

**No matter who we are, no matter where we go, no matter how great our mistakes or regrets are in life, we will always be invited in and held together by the Living God. Again and again and again, we are forgiven. Again and again and again, we are held. Amen.**

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the prayers and readings in today's services are by The Reverend Sarah Are and adapted and used with permission from A Sanctified Art, LLC.

Hymn # 466

“Come and Fill Our Hearts”

CONFETIMINI DOMINO

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.*

*Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Hosanna!*

**ENCOUNTERING THE WORD**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Elder Fran Bader

**Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet**      John 13:1-17

Listen now for the Word of God.

**Our ears are open. . .**

**Washing and Being Washed**

*During the singing of the song, you are invited to wash your feet and/or hands, using a bowl of water.*

*If you are with someone – and they are willing –*

*you are invited to respectfully and reverently wash one another’s feet.*

*As you touch the water, remember the loving servanthood and cleansing power of Jesus.*

**Special Music**

“Come, Ye Disconsolate”

Mimi Dumouchel, soloist

**Jesus Gives a New Commandment**      John 13:31-35

Pastor John Sawyer

**Homily**      “More Love”

Pastor John Sawyer

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Hymn # 820

“Nothing Can Trouble”

NADA DE TURBE

*Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.*

*Those who seek God shall never go wanting.*

*Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.*

*God alone fills us. . .*

**Statement of Faith – from A Sanctified Art**

Elder Fran Bader

**We are each a tapestry of stories. We are our stories of fear and grief, as well as our stories of love and joy. We believe that God sees all of these interwoven truths and says to our fragile selves:**

*“Come in. Come in from the cold, come in from the rain, come in from wherever you are, and be here tonight.”*

**We believe that God then pours warm water into a basin to wash off the weariness of the day, the bruises of the past, and the doubt that clings to us.**

**We believe that this act is an act of love. Similarly, we believe that God says to us: “Eat.” And God shares of God’s self, and it is food not only for our bodies, but for our souls. We believe that all this happens every time we close our eyes and imagine God, and every time we close our eyes and imagine God, we believe the parts of our tapestry that feel worn and frayed are held together. So today, we remember. Today we say thank you. Today, we know—we are held together.**

**Amen.**

**Invitation to the Table**

Pastor John Sawyer

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks and praise.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Words of Institution and Sharing of the Bread and the Cup**

*At this time in the service, you are invited to use any bread that you have along with any beverage (preferably grape-based) to participate in the Lord's Supper.*

*As Presbyterians, we believe that the Holy Spirit connects us to one another and to the Table at God's heavenly feast no matter where we are.*

**Prayer After Communion and Lord's Prayer ("debts/debtors")** Pastor John Sawyer

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Hymn # 215** (see below) "What Wondrous Love is This" WONDROUS LOVE

**Jesus Prays in the Garden** Mark 14:32-42 Elder Fran Bader

**Hymn # 204** "Stay with Me" STAY WITH ME

***Stay with me – remain here with me.  
Watch and pray. Watch and pray.***

**Jesus is Arrested** Mark 14:43-50 Pastor John Sawyer

**Psalm of Lament** Psalm 88

**Special Music** "Were You There" WERE YOU THERE  
Handbell Quartet

**Closing Response** Pastor John Sawyer

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

**Grant us peace.**

### **Blessing**



### **Liturgists and Leaders in tonight's worship service –**

The Reverend John Sawyer, Pastor

Mrs. Barbara Flocco, Director of Music

Elder Fran Bader, Liturgist

Handbell Quartet – Cheryl Barlow, Lynn Wahle, Sue Gobel, and Carolyn Swift

Marc Murai, Elder Michael Chen, and Kirk Wilson, Sound and Video Technicians  
Members of our IT and Communications Committee and Covid-19 Task Force

Information on ways to access audio and video versions of tonight's service can be found  
at [www.bedfordpresbyterian.org](http://www.bedfordpresbyterian.org).



*As part of tonight's service, you are invited to offer your tithes and offerings,  
by writing a check and putting it in an envelope to the church,  
or through our church's online giving website  
(<https://bedfordpresbyterian.org/giving/one-time-gifts-pledges/>),  
or by scanning this QR code and making a donation.*



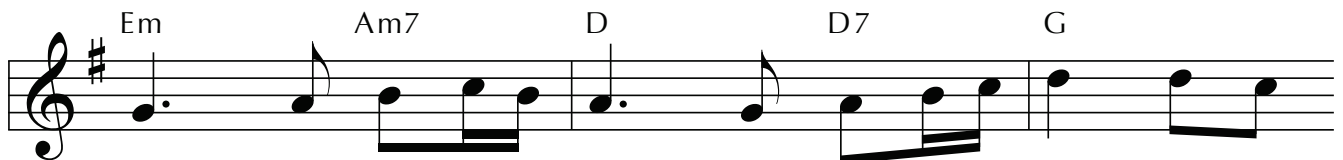
*Your giving has a direct impact on the ministry and mission  
of Bedford Presbyterian Church! Thank you!*

# An Upper Room Did Our Lord 202

## Prepare



1 An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare for those he  
 2 A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own: to share his  
 3 And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet, for ser - vice,  
 4 No end there is! We de - part in peace. He loves be -



loved un - til the end: and his dis - ci - ples still  
 bread, his lov - ing cup. What - ev - er bur - dens may  
 too, is sac - ra - ment. In Christ our joy shall be  
 yond our ut - ter - most: in ev - ery room in our



gath - er there to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.  
 bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.  
 made com - plete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.  
 Fa - ther's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

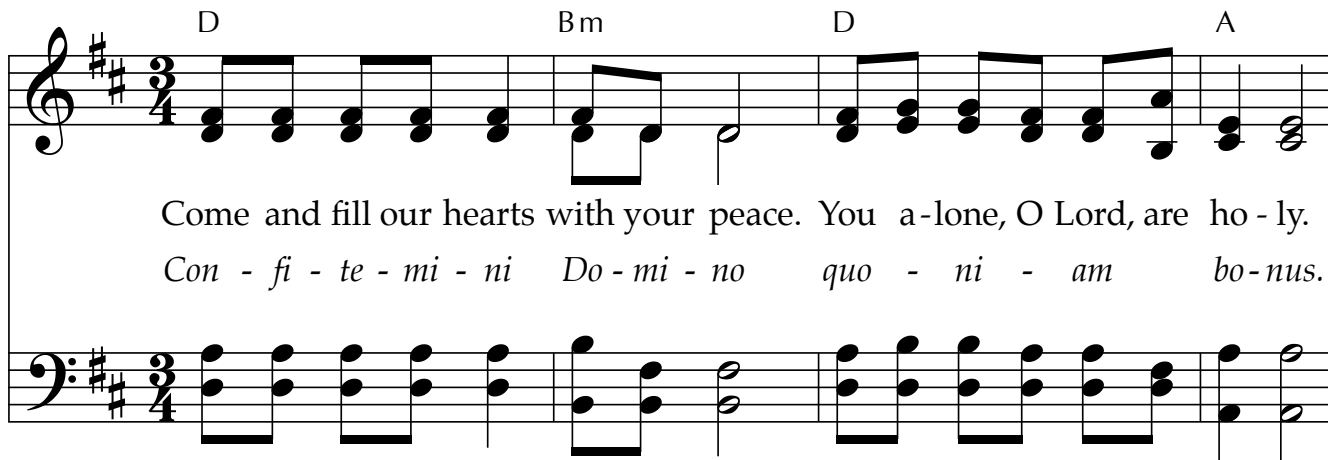
*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text brings together the two New Testament traditions regarding Jesus' final evening with his disciples: the Synoptic account of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:26–29/Mark 14:22–25/Luke 22:14–20) and the Fourth Gospel's report of his washing the disciples' feet (John 13:3–17).

# Come and Fill Our Hearts 466

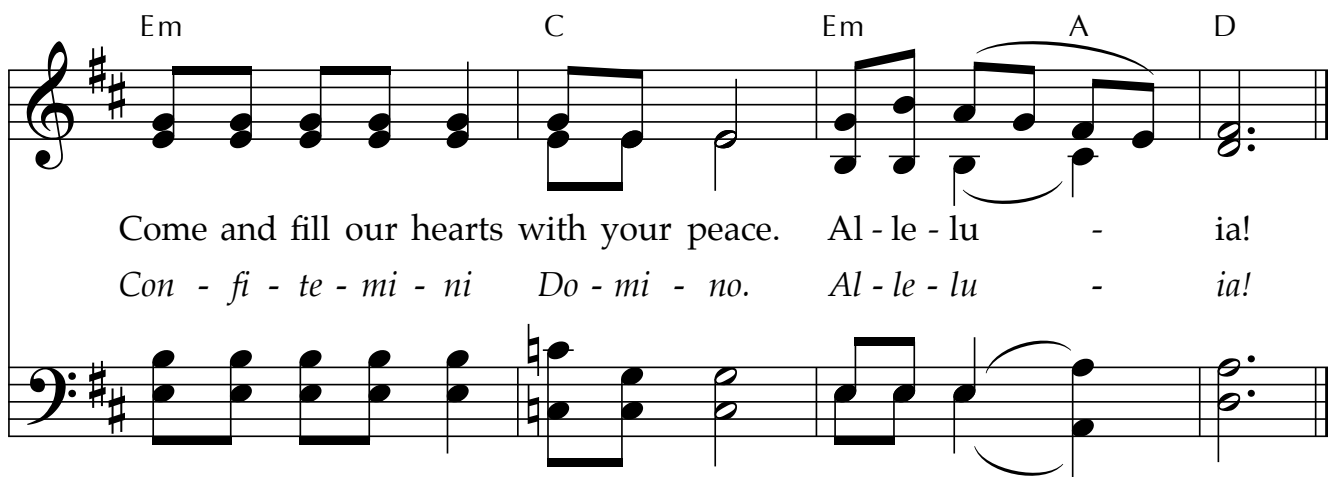
## *Confitemini Domino*

D                      Bm                      D                      A



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.  
*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.*

Em                      C                      Em                      A                      D



Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!  
*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!*

This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

# Nothing Can Trouble

820

*Nada te turbe*

1

Noth-ing can trou - ble; noth-ing can fright - en. Those who seek  
Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te. Quien a Dios

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains a melody of eighth notes, while the bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords. A first ending bracket is placed over the final two measures of the system.

2

God shall nev - er go want - ing. God a - lone fills us.  
tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. So - lo Dios bas - ta.

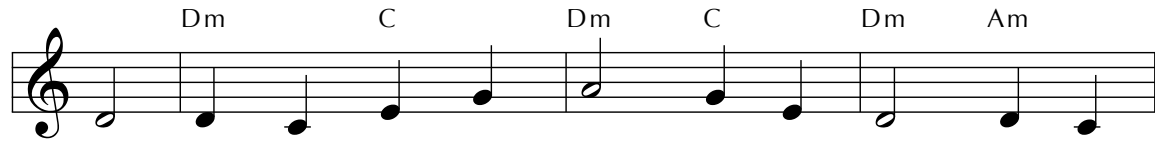
The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a repeat sign followed by a second ending bracket over the final two measures, which end with a double bar line.

This meditative refrain from Taizé is based on a saying attributed to Teresa of Avila: "Let nothing trouble you; let nothing frighten you. All things are passing; God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever possesses God lacks nothing; God alone suffices."

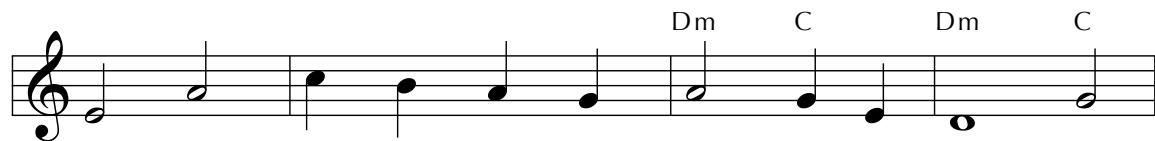
TEXT: Attr. Teresa of Avila, 16th cent.; para. Taizé Community: Spanish, 1986; English, 1995  
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1986  
Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

NADA TE TURBE  
Irregular

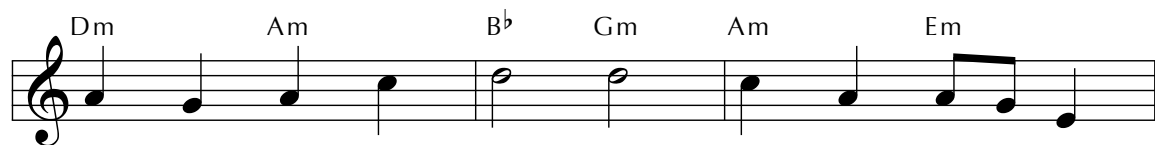
# What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing  
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What  
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to  
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous  
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my  
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my  
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!  
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."



# Stay with Me

204

Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and  
 pray. Watch and pray.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and". The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "pray. Watch and pray." The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some notes tied across measures.

This chant from Taizé intended for repeated singing is based on Jesus' request to the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:38/Mark14:34), a simple request they did not fulfill. When singing these words we need to hear in them an ongoing call to be alert and faithful.