



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

Maundy Thursday
April 2, 2026 - 7:00 PM



Our Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church of Northport is a welcoming community that invites all people to learn about and respond to the Word of God as found in the Old and New Testaments. Our mission is to be shaped by, proclaim, and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. We are committed to supporting the spiritual development of our congregation by feeding the spiritually and physically hungry, caring for the sick and lonely, nurturing children, and reaching out to those in need in our local and global communities.

FOUNDED 1785

APRIL 2, 2026, 7:00 PM

Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae

PRELUDE “Sonata in B Minor, Longo 33” Isabella Eredita Johnson
D. Scarlatti

CHORAL INTROIT “What Wondrous Love Is This” C. R. Young
Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive) Rev. Rachel Vione

This is the night that Christ, the Lamb of God,
gave Himself into the hands of those who would slay Him.

This is the night that Christ gathered with His disciples in the upper room.

This is the night that Christ took a towel and washed the disciples’ feet.

**This is the night that Christ our God gave us this holy feast, that we who eat
this bread and drink this cup may here proclaim His holy sacrifice and be partakers
of His resurrection and at the last day may reign with Him in heaven.**

*HYMN NO. 202 “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare” O WALY WALY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

We confess tonight that we are like those who crucified our Lord.

We are like those who denied Jesus—refusing to claim him as Lord of our whole life.

We are like those who have mocked him—forgetting his power in this world.

We are like those who made him a crown of thorns—diminishing his authority in our lives.

**We are like those who hung him on a Cross—choosing the allure of violence and fear
rather than justice and peace.**

We are like those who turned away their gaze—afraid to enter into the suffering of this world.

Forgive us. Have mercy upon us.

**On these days of emptiness and death before the Resurrection we begin tonight to offer our
confessions to you in silence.....**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)

Even in the darkness of this night, even in the emptiness of these hours that stretch out before
Easter morning, the promise of the Resurrection is still at hand.

It is a dim light, and yet to the light we cling.

Give us grace to receive this assurance of your love.

Grant us peace on this night. Amen.

*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand

Cover Art - Angelico, fra, approximately 1400-1455. Betrayal and Arrest of Christ, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=47760> [retrieved April 1, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fra_Angelico_020.jpg.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Hymn No. 213, v.1

***In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o’er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.***

ANTHEM

“Father, Forgive Them”
Chancel Choir

P. Choplin

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 18:15-27

(p. 112, pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

Rev. Rachel Vione

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

Adapted from John 13:34

On this night Christ gathered with His disciples. And Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Hymn No. 215, v. 4

***And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on; and when from death I’m free,
I’ll sing on; and when from death I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be, and through eternity,
I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on; and through eternity I’ll sing on.***

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

HYMN NO. 223

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
Please remain seated

HAMBURG

THE 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 thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS [congregation sings]

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Communion will be served by intinction. You are invited to come forward by the center aisle beginning with the front rows, take a piece of bread, eat it, then move to the juice filled trays. After drinking the juice, please take the empty cup back to your pew by the side aisles and place it in the cup rack. If you are unable to come forward, a server will come to your pew. All elements are gluten free.

COMMUNION MUSIC

“Coronation”

C. Courtney

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

~Service of Tenebrae~

HYMN NO. 228

“Were You There”

WERE YOU THERE

The congregation may remain seated for the singing of the hymn, during which the table will be stripped of the paraments and communion elements that represent the presence of Christ with us.

I. JESUS IS BETRAYED

John 18:1-14

Harold Armet

II. JESUS IS TAKEN BEFORE PILATE

John 18:28-40

Susanne Haffner

III. JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

John 19:1-27

Frank Dentrone

IV. IT IS FINISHED

John 19:28-42

Kim Gilbert

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Luke 23:34, Luke 23:43, Mark 15:34, John 19:26-27, John 19:28, John 19:30, Luke 23:46

THE TOLLING OF THE BELL

John Kennedy

*In the darkness, the bell is tolled 33 times, representing the years of Jesus' life, and the bible is slammed shut, echoing the tomb. The world is bereft of both the Light and the Word.
The congregation departs in silence.*

On Maundy Thursday (also called Holy Thursday), the church commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus broke bread with his disciples for the last time before his arrest and crucifixion. The word *Maundy*, a Middle English usage, derives from the Old French and Latin *mandamentum*, meaning *commandment*. This evening's music reflects the somberness and sadness of the last hours of Christ's life.

The Easter Dawn Service will be held Sunday at Northport Village Park beginning at 7 AM.
In the event of inclement weather, please gather at Trinity Episcopal Church on Main Street.
A light breakfast follows at Trinity Church.

Our Easter worship celebration will take place here in the sanctuary at 10:00 AM. Pre-service music will begin at 9:45 AM.

The service includes communion, special music, and the flowering of the cross.