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Do This In My Memory: A Communion Service

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Do This in My Memory: A Communion Service of Scripture Readings in Remembrance of Jesus

ARRANGED BY: D'ESTA LOVE

SONG SERVICE PLANNED BY: ZACHARY LOVE AND D'ESTA LOVE

SCRIPTURE READINGS ARE FROM THE REVISED STANDARD VERSION

Opening Song: "That's Why we Praise Him" **Zach Love and Praise Team**

Welcome and Family Events

Prayer of Petition and The Lord's Prayer **Grant Bryant**

Songs: "There is a Redeemer"
 "You are My King"
 "Agnus Dei"

We Bring our Gifts to God—Prayer and Offering **David Lemley**

Introduction to the Service: **D'Esta Love**

"When we meet in sweet communion,
Where the feast divine is spread,
Hearts are brought in closer union,
While partaking of the bread.

Precious feast, all else surpassing
Wondrous love for you and me,
While we feast, Christ gently whispers,
Do this in my memory."

Today's service is a communion service, devoted to the memory of Jesus. Through the reading of scripture, we will make a journey of remembrance. We begin with Jesus on the way to Jerusalem and make our way with him to the upper room, where we will pause to celebrate the supper with Jesus and the disciples. Then we will go with them to the Mount of Olives and Gethsemane, and back to Jerusalem—making our way to the place of the skull to witness and remember the crucifixion of Jesus. But as the passion narrative does not end in the grave, so we too will end our journey before an empty tomb.

"Do this in remembrance of me."

Hearing of the Word

Readers: Kate Suriyatip, Bernie James, Stan Warford and D'Esta Love

Movement I: Jesus and the Disciples

Stan: Jesus and his disciples were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. Jesus took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen, saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him, and after three days he will rise again."

Bernie: James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What can I do for you?" And they said, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand and my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

Kate: When the ten heard this, they were indignant with James and John. And Jesus said to them, "You know those who rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10.32–45)

D'Esta: Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us that we may eat it." They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there make ready for us."

Kate: And they went, and found it as Jesus had told them; and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening Jesus came with the twelve. And while they sat at table eating, Jesus said . . . "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." (Luke 22.7–14)

Bernie: Now as they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body. Do this in remembrance of me." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many, for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." (Matt 26.26–29)

Stan: From the apostle Paul to the Corinthians: For as often as you eat the bread and drink the cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor 11.26)

*We Approach the Table of the Lord**Communion Meditation and Prayers:*

David Lemley

*Song during Communion: "When We Meet in Sweet Communion"***Movement II: Arrest and Trial of Jesus**

D'Esta: And when they had sung a hymn, Jesus and his disciples went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night." Peter declared to him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I say to you, this very night before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Kate: Then Jesus went with the disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there to pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and he began to be grieved and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me."

Stan: And going a little farther he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not my will but your will be done." Then Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Could you not stay awake with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Bernie: So, for the second time he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found the disciples sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said, "Are you still sleeping? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going." (Matt 26.30–46)

Stan: Jesus . . . went with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. (John 18.1–4 NRSV)

D'Esta: Now Judas was leading [the detachment of soldiers] and he drew near to Jesus to kiss him; and Jesus said, "Judas, would you betray the Son of man with a kiss?" and they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. (Luke 22.47–48; Mark 14.46)

Kate: Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?" And Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him. (John 18.10; Matt 26.52; John 18.11; Luke 22.47)

D'Esta: Then Jesus said to those who had come out against him. "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness." Then all his disciples forsook him and fled. (Luke 22.52–53; Matt 26.56)

Bernie: So the soldiers, their officers, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him and led him to Caiaphas the high priest; where the scribes and the elders had gathered. Then Jesus was brought into the high priest's house. (Matt 26.57; Luke 22.54)

Stan: But Peter followed him at a distance and entered the courtyard of the high priest. When the guards had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man was also with him." But Peter denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him said, "You also are one of them." But Peter denied it with an oath saying, "I do not know the man!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" (Mark 14.54; Luke 22.55–60a NRSV)

Kate: At that moment, while Peter was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today you will deny me three times." And Peter went out and wept bitterly. (Luke 22.60b–62 NRSV)

Bernie: When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought Jesus to their council. Now the chief priests and the whole council sought testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, and their witness did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" (Luke 22.66; Mark 26.55–58)

D'Esta: And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he was silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am; and you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." (Mark 26.60–62)

Stan: And the high priest tore his garments, and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. (Mark 26.62–64)

D'Esta: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor. Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer. (Matt 27.1–2, 11; Mark 15.3–5)

Bernie: And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes, "I find no crime in this man." But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place." Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him." (Luke 23.4–5; 13–14)

Kate: Now at the feast [of Passover] the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?" (Matt 27.15–17)

D’Esta: While [Pilate] was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. So the governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” and they said, “Barabbas.”

Stan: Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified.” (Matt 27.19–22)

Bernie: Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered. “We have no king but Caesar.” But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. (John 19.15; Luke 23.23)

Kate: So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” And all the people answered, “Let his blood be on us and on our children!” Then he released for them Barabbas. (Matt 27.24–26)

Stan: And they stripped [Jesus] and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him and led him away to be crucified. (Matt 27.28–31)

Song: “King of My Life” (“Lead me to Calvary”), Stanzas 1 and 2, *Audience Standing

Movement III: Crucifixion and Burial of Jesus

Bernie: And they led [Jesus] away to be crucified. As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; and they compelled him to carry the cross of Jesus. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

D’Esta: And when they had crucified him they divided his garments among them by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there.

Kate: And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus the King of the Jews.”

Stan: Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

Bernie: And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

Kate: So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. If he is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” (Matt 27.31–43)

Bernie: One of the criminals who were hanged [with Jesus] railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying “Do you not fear God, since you are under the

same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

D’Esta: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. (Luke 23.39–44)

Stan: And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthanai?” Which means, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” (Mark 15.34–35)

Kate: After this, Jesus knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the scripture), “I thirst.” A bowl full of vinegar stood there, so they put a sponge full of the vinegar on hyssop and held it to his mouth. And when he received the vinegar, he said, “It is finished.” (John 19.28–30)

Bernie: Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. (Luke 23.46)

D’Esta: Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that he thus breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

Kate: There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and Salome, who when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered to him. (Mark 15.39–41)

Stan: When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud. (Matt 27.57–59)

Bernie: Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen clothes, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

D’Esta: Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. (John 19.39–42 NRSV)

Song: “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

Movement IV: The Resurrection of Jesus

Kate: Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulcher. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.

Bernie: His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you

seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he is risen. Come, see the place where he lay.”

Stan: [And the angel said], “Go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold; he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

D’Esta: From the apostle Paul to the Corinthians: For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me . . . So we proclaim and so you have come to believe. (1 Cor 15.3–8, 11b NRSV)

Closing Songs: *Audience Standing
“I Do Believe, I Now Believe”

I do believe, I now believe
 That Jesus died for me
 And through his blood, his precious blood
 I shall from sin be free. (sing three times)

“King of My Life” (“Lead me to Calvary”), Stanza 3

May I be willing, Lord to bear
 Daily the cross for thee;
 Even the cup of grief to share;
 Thou hast borne all for me.

Lest I forget Gethsemane,
 Lest I forget thine agony,
 Lest I forget thy love for me,
 Lead me to Calvary.

Call to Ministry and Benediction: Stuart Love

D’ESTA LOVE IS CO-EDITOR OF *LEAVEN JOURNAL*.

