

Maundy Thursday Vigil Holy Week 2021

April 1 at 8pm - April 2 at 7pm

The purpose and format of our Holy Week Vigil are described below. If you are able to participate - please complete the sign-up form linked [HERE](#).

During Holy Week we will email you a reminder of the hour that you signed up for, the contact information for the person covering the hour before and after you, and the contact information for a First Church Deacon to assist with any questions.

If your availability changes - *please use the doodle poll to change your response. Thank you.*

Participating in the Vigil:

On his last night, Jesus asked his friends and followers to stay awake with him as he awaited his betrayal. Yet they were anxious and stressed and fell asleep. As the world watches and waits through the extraordinary events of Holy Week, we know how essential it is that Jesus not be alone in this time, and are taking up the task of watching and waiting with him.

Vigil Guidelines:

Please settle into your space a few minutes before your appointed time. Find a candle and light it to help illuminate your meditations, bring your phone so you can answer the call of the person before you.

- When you are settled and ready, await the call of the person sitting vigil before you.
- If you cannot keep your appointed time, please try finding a substitute.
- If you can't find someone to take your place, call the member of our Deacons Team noted in the email that you will receive prior to the vigil.
- When your time is finished, call the person whose watch is next.
- If no one answers when it is your time to leave - and if you cannot stay any longer - call the First Church Deacon and they will hold vigil until the next person can be reached.
- Do not leave the vigil unattended.
- During the vigil - feel free to move around your home as needed - the point is to be awake with Jesus during this time.

Vigil Ritual: Your vigil hour is an opportunity for silent meditation and prayer. One way to focus your meditation and prayer is to read: Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Exodus 12:1-14, Psalms 116, 22, 31, First Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35, John 18:1-19:42, Job 14:1-14, Matthew 27:57-66.

You may wish to read these passages, pray and meditate on the images, feelings, and thoughts that arise for you. You may prefer to read the scripture before your vigil hour so that the entire hour can be spent contemplatively. Just come with an open mind and full heart to be in the stillness and to stay awake with Christ that hour. Thank you.

