

**Weisenberg Lutheran Church
7645 Weisenberg Church Road
New Tripoli, PA 18066
Phone: 610-298-2437**

**LORD’S SUPPER, PRAYER IN GETHSEMANE
MAUNDY THURSDAY
Worship Service 7:00 PM
*March 28, 2024***

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**Welcome to worship at Weisenberg!**  
***Please gather this night in silence.***

*Please stand as you are able for all parts labeled (\*). Worship leaders [Pastor (P:) and Assistant (A:)] speak the plain text. The congregation (C:) responds with the words in **bold**.*

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

**PRELUDE** “*Via Dolorosa*” ~Sewell

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN & DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (ELW P. 321)**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord’s call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism. Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

**C: Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.**

P: Faithful and Just God,

**C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**

P: Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

**C: Amen.**

**\*PEACE(ELW p. 241)**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN** *"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"* No. 592

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final line of the hymn.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871  
Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradburv. 1816-1868

**\*GREETING**

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A: Let us pray. God of grace,

**C: You held your son, Jesus, in your loving arms in the midst of his harrowing trials. Remind us that you hold us in the same way, no matter what we are going through, and call us to hold others in their pain, that all might know your presence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**PSALM :12-19**

<sup>12</sup>What shall I return to the Lord  
**for all his bounty to me?**

<sup>13</sup>I will lift up the cup of salvation  
**and call on the name of the Lord,**

<sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the Lord  
**in the presence of all his people.**

<sup>15</sup>Precious in the sight of the Lord  
**is the death of his faithful ones.**

<sup>16</sup>O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant,  
**the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.**

<sup>17</sup>I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
**and call on the name of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the Lord  
**in the presence of all his people,**

<sup>19</sup>in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
**in your midst, O Jerusalem.  
Praise the Lord!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *"Return to the Lord"* (ELW p. 151)

**\*GOSPEL** Mark 14:12-52

R: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 14th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"<sup>13</sup>So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him,<sup>14</sup>and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'<sup>15</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."<sup>16</sup>So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>17</sup>When it was evening, he came with the twelve.<sup>18</sup>And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."<sup>19</sup>They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?"<sup>20</sup>He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me."<sup>21</sup>For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

<sup>22</sup>While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."<sup>23</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.<sup>24</sup>He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."<sup>25</sup>Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup>When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.<sup>27</sup>And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

<sup>28</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."<sup>29</sup>Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not."<sup>30</sup>Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."<sup>31</sup>But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny

you." And all of them said the same.

<sup>32</sup>They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray."<sup>33</sup>He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated.<sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."<sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.<sup>36</sup>He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."<sup>37</sup>He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? <sup>38</sup>Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."<sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.<sup>40</sup>And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.<sup>41</sup>He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.<sup>42</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

<sup>43</sup>Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders.<sup>44</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."<sup>45</sup>So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.<sup>46</sup>Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.<sup>47</sup>But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.<sup>48</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?"<sup>49</sup>Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."<sup>50</sup>All of them deserted him and fled.

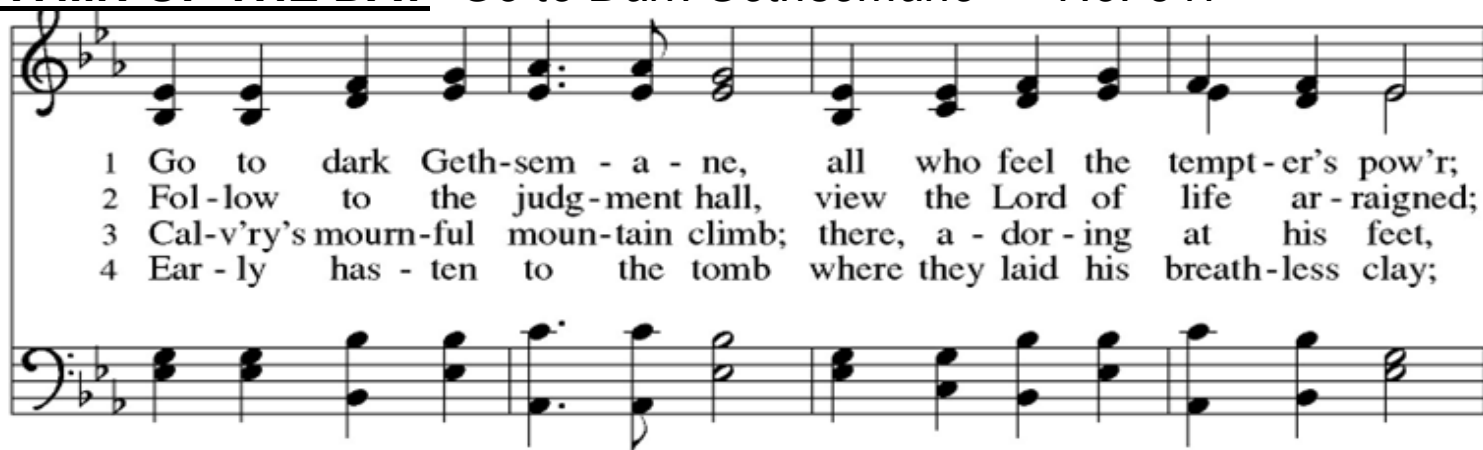
<sup>51</sup>A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him,<sup>52</sup>but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

R: The gospel of the Lord.

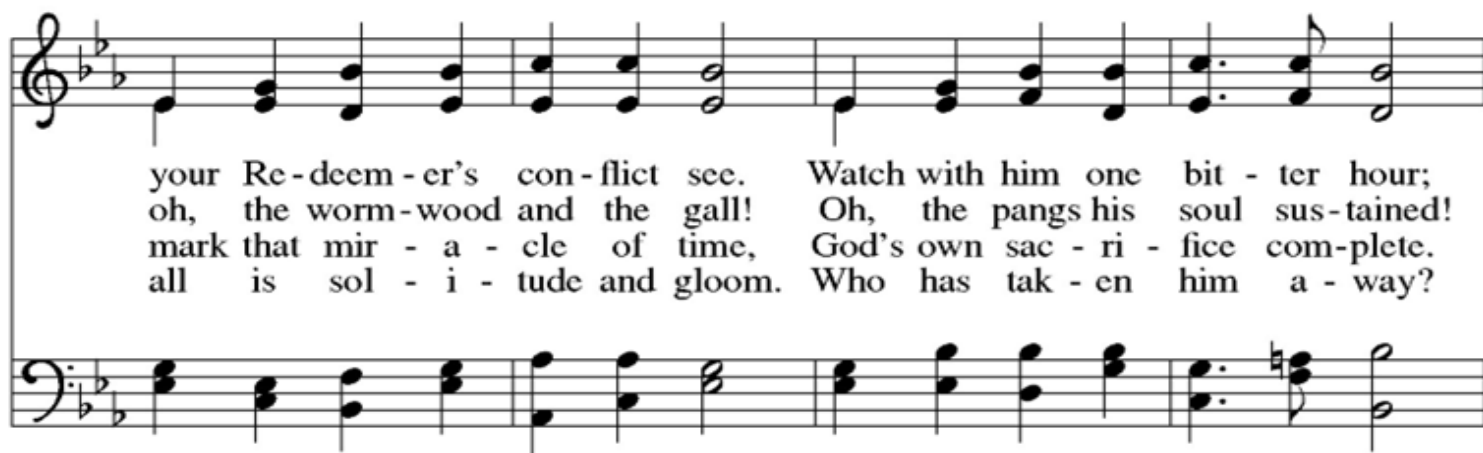
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

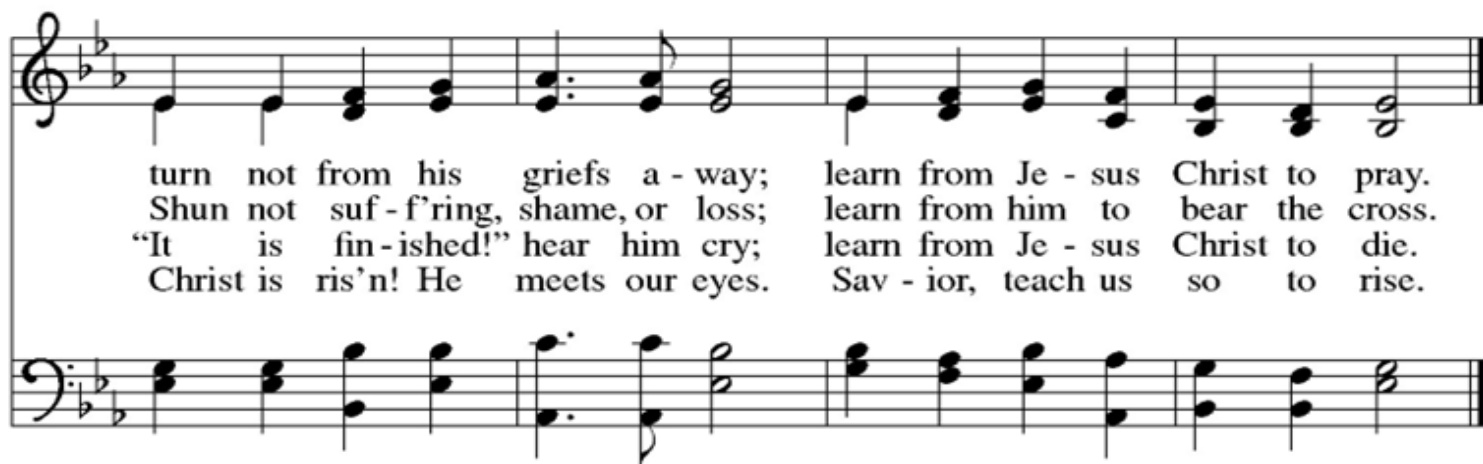
## HYMN OF THE DAY "Go to Dark Gethsemane" No. 347



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901

## \*NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A:** As we walk together through this season of contemplation and preparation, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A:** Holy God, as the disciples fell asleep in the garden, so we fail you again and again in our lives. Forgive us when we fall short, and make us willing to keep trying. God of the journey,

**C:** In mercy, hear our prayer.

**A:** Your good creation is manifest in the bread and the wine, and in the garden where Jesus prayed. Keep us in tune with the



interconnectedness of everything you have made, including ourselves. God of the journey,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for those seeking to grow in understanding. Grant them the ability to see deeply the world around them, and from that knowledge, ask meaningful questions. God of the journey,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

A: Be with those experiencing loss or illness, (*especially...*), that they may be healed in body, mind, and spirit. God of the journey,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

A: Wake us up to the realities of suffering throughout the world and our own complicity in it, that we might pray and work for peace. God of the journey,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: We remember with gratitude all who have served your church in big and small ways, especially those leaders who guided your church through difficult times. God of the journey,

**C: In mercy, hear our prayer.**

A: Confident that you walk alongside us in our need, we lift to you all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our savior.

**C: Amen.**

**OFFERING/OFFERATORY** “Meditation for Holy Week” ~ Loree

**WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM** “Not My Will” ~ Schram

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN** “Let the Vineyards” No. 184

*Please stand and sing as our gifts are brought forward and offered to God for their blessing and use in Christ’s ministry through the ELCA and Synod Programs.*

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray. Holy God,

**C: what shall we return to you for all your bounty to us? We shall pay our vows in the presence of all your people. Accept, then, these gifts, and bless them for your holy purposes, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**\*DIALOGUE** (ELW p. 152)

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**\*PREFACE** (ELW p. 152)

**\*SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)** (ELW p. 153)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,*

*Lord God of pow'r and might:*

*Heav'n 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.*

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you... This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and

on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With your saints, holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: People of God, behold what you are.

**C: Let us become what we receive!**

**COMMUNION SONG: "Lamb of God"(ELW p. 154)**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**COMMUNION ANTHEM "Remember Me" ~ Krueger/arr. Innes**

**HYMNS DURING COMMUNION**

474—468

**\*TABLE BLESSING**

*After all have been fed and the table has been cleaned:*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** Let us pray. Lord Jesus,

**C:** in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR**

*In the night before his crucifixion, the Roman soldiers had stripped Jesus of his clothes, flogged him, and led him away to be executed.*

*As we sing our closing hymns together, the sanctuary is stripped of worship garments, reminding us of Jesus' affliction and preparing us to enter Good Friday as Jesus did—laid bare of all that we are, all for the love of God and God's people.*

*After the altar is stripped, our gathering has come to an end. You may remain in the sanctuary for private prayer for as long as you desire.*

**CLOSING HYMN**      *"What Wondrous Love Is This"*      No. 666

**CLOSING HYMN**      *"Ah, Holy Jesus"*      No. 349

*All leave in silence. There is no benediction this evening.*

*The Great Three Days of Holy Week; Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, are treated as one continuous act of Christian worship. Worship continues tomorrow night in silence with Good Friday's Tenebrae service.*

***Please Depart In Silence***

## **Main Idea: Jesus's promise to us in the Last Supper means something because it is a promise, embodied.**

So often, we read Jesus as a wise, all-knowing kind of character. Especially in passages like this one from the Gospel of Mark, where he is laying out future events and leading not only the conversation with his disciples, but also their journey, it's easy to lean into the divine side of Jesus's "divine and human" nature. To see him as God walking among people instead of a God *person* walking among people.

But everything else in this story points to the most fundamentally human things imaginable. Food. Drink. Blood. Sleep. It's clear that the Holy Spirit is pulling us back to center and asking us to consider the human side of Jesus's "divine and human" nature.

So, what if we bend the way we normally read Jesus here? What if Jesus's tone is more anxious than it is omniscient? What if he is projecting instead of predicting? He might have felt paranoid around the disciples. He might have been preempting some of their behavior and trying to get out ahead of it because he was on edge. The text tells us that Jesus grows agitated and distressed as he and his disciples get closer to the cross. It also tells us that Jesus has a sense of what is coming his way—death. What if something about Jesus's divine/human essence kept him from knowing exactly how things were going to unfold? Wouldn't that be terrifying?

Jesus did something that no one else in history has ever done before. No one could have understood his mission or his fate during his lifetime, because it had never been conceived of or modeled. It would make sense if Jesus was fully human that he had moments where he didn't understand his mission or his fate. It would make sense if Jesus was fully human that he couldn't conceive of either one—at least not in full.

It is so much more precious and so much more meaningful to have a savior who can empathize with us than one who remains detached; a savior who knows our hearts because he has our heart instead of a savior who isn't in any way human. When we feel anxious; when we feel confused or misunderstood or lonely or isolated or so, so scared—we can draw a deep and holy comfort remembering that Jesus has been there. That Jesus sits with us there. That Jesus made us a promise there—a new covenant in his blood. The "Last Supper Jesus" could very well have been an anxious Jesus. And that only makes his promise more powerful for us today.

**Scripture Summary: Jesus makes a promise over bread and wine, journeys to the Mount of Olives, and prays to God in Gethsemane. His anxiety grows as he gets closer and closer to the cross.**

### **Weisenberg Remote Worship 3/28/2024 Copyright Notice**

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