



STONEGATE CHURCH



In the Life of our STONEGATE Family

Sunday,

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
6:00 p.m. CPW Meeting—3rd Sunday

Tuesday,

7:00 p.m. American Heritage Girls
1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday every month

Wednesday,

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday,

10:00 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Prayer Healing Service—(3rd Thursday)

Friday,

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
Open publically to everyone



Maundy Thursday



Worship Ceremony
for The Celebration of Holy Communion
on Maundy Thursday

17101 North Western, Edmond, Oklahoma 73083-3973

www.stonegatecpc.org

April 17, 2014 6:30 PM



Invocation

The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.'
And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.'
And let everyone who is thirsty come.
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.
(Revelation 22:17 ^{NRSV})

Greetings and Introduction, and Opening Prayer

***PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, grant Your mercy and grace to Your people in their many and various callings. Give them patience, and strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to their neighbor in Christ's name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord + Amen.

Hymn The Old Rugged Cross # 230 (1-4)

1. On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

2. Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary.

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Tradition says that when Jesus said "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is poured out for you," He was referring to the 3rd cup of the Passover, the Cup of Redemption. By His shed blood we can be redeemed from our bondage to sin, just as the Israelites were redeemed from their bondage to Egypt. He then said He wouldn't drink wine again until the Kingdom had come.

The Gospel of John records an event that took place that same day as He hung from the cross.

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (*John 19:28-30*)

He had given His body and shed His blood. Phase one of the Kingdom, allowing us to receive a full pardon for our sins, had come. To fulfill the Scriptures, He took a final drink of wine. It represented the 4th Cup of the Passover, the Cup of Acceptance. It's as if He was saying to all who would believe in Him, "I will take you as my people and I will be your God."



The four cups of the Passover are based on the promise God made to Israel when He sent Moses to deliver them from Egypt. He said, “Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.’” (Exodus 6:6-7)

The first cup is called Sanctification (I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians),
the second is Blessing (I will free you from being slaves to them),
the third is Redemption (I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and mighty acts of judgment) and
the fourth is Acceptance (I will take you as my people and I will be your God.)



3. In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
 A wondrous beauty I see,
 For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
 To pardon and sanctify me.

4. To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
 Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
 Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
 Where His glory forever I'll share.

Set up elements on the Lord’s Table

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

A woman lights a candle.

First woman:

This candle represents the presence of God the Father.

Second woman:

This candle represents the presence of the Son of God.

Third woman:

This candle represents the presence of the Holy Spirit.

PASTOR:: The Gospel of Matthew says: So the women hurried away (...) Suddenly Jesus met them. **“Greetings,”** he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, **“Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”** (Matthew 28:8-10 ^{NIV});

The Gospel of Matthew says: While He was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it over His head. (Matthew 26:7 ^{NLT});

The Gospel Luke says: (...) a woman named Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord’s feet, listening to what He taught. (Luke 10:38b-39a ^{NLT});

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PASTOR: By strength of hand, the Lord brought us out of evil and death. In gratitude, let us then worship our God and recount His mercy and grace.

MEN: This moment is truly special; for once we were lost, but now we are found and free.

PASTOR: Raising up this cup we remembrance God's glory and might, forgiveness, grace and love.

ALL: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, creator of the fruit of the vine. We praise you, not for the weakness that brought suffering, but for your victory over death.

PASTOR: This reminds us of the bitterness and shame of sin. We are told as believers to "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (*Ephesians 4:31-32^{NRSV}*).

ALL: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of kings, who has sanctified us by His commandments and commanded us to eat and drink from this Table.

Let us pray

***PRAYER:** I thank you my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. + Amen

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WOMEN: From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, the Lord's name is to be praised.

PASTOR: The Lord is high above all nations, and His glory above the heavens.

MEN: Who is like unto the Lord, our God, who dwells on high?

PASTOR: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

ALL: For His love endures forever!

PASTOR: I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy.

WOMEN: Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

PASTOR: The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

MEN: The Lord protects the simple-hearted; when I was in great need, He saved me.

PASTOR: How can I repay the Lord for all His goodness to me?

ALL: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

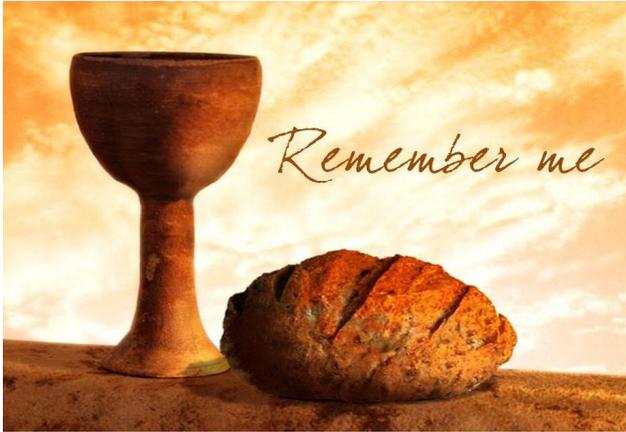
PASTOR: Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol Him, all you peoples.

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Hymn Jesus, Remember Me #822 RH (x3)

**Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom**



**THE CUP
OF PRAISE/RESTORATION/ACCEPTANCE**

– based on God’s statement,
“I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God”

(Now comes the recitation from the Praise Psalms, 113 through 118. Let us recite psalms of worship at this time, just as Jesus recited them every year as part of His Passover observance.)

PASTOR:: Praise you the Lord!

ALL: Praise, O you servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord.

PASTOR:: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore.

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(LET US READ RESPONSIVELY)

Is Father here?

He is!

Is Christ among us?

He is!

Is Spirit with us?

He is!

Who is our God?

Our God is God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Who are we?

We are equal people.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Affirmation of Faith – in Unison

We believe and trust in God the Father Almighty.

We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, his Son.

We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.

We believe and trust in the Three in One.



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