



## *Epworth United Methodist Church*

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### What Will We Remember This Day? – A Reflection for Holy Thursday

**Wherever** we find ourselves this day, we are invited; encouraged; and challenged to safely gather around the table~~whether in body or in spirit with those whom we love. **This day**, Holy Thursday, is a day of remembrance, and Jesus commanded us, “do this in remembrance of me.”

But what is it that we will remember this day?

Maybe, we will remember a visionary, who spoke of a kingdom open to the child in each one of us; one who told us that love is stronger than death, who claimed that God’s embrace surrounds us as gently as the breeze does a gliding sparrow.

Or perhaps we will remember a teacher and a healer -- one whose touch could change a life -- who probably has even touched and changed *our* lives; a healing presence that is as near to us as the breath we breathe.

Or maybe we will recall his fresh innocence; the way he loved so freely; the way he laughed so genuinely; the way he accepted others so easily.

Jesus: the visionary, the teacher, the healer – the one who will later be betrayed and give up his own life.

**This day**, like his first disciples, we remember his presence, to laugh with him again, to love with him again, to eat and drink with him -- to gain enough nourishment in this meal and this fellowship to last us until the dawn of Easter morning. We experience~in his presence~the love of God, as we gather around the table, as we hear the words and remember. God uses this sacramental time to strengthen us for the road and the struggle that lies ahead.

**This day**, as we gather together in body or in spirit~~ as his disciples; as his family; we hear the echo of his words, “This is for you...”

**This day**, especially during this season and unprecedented time, we remember what we are more inclined to forget~~God’s dream that we may all be one, **GATHERED TOGETHER** at the table, his church - his body, living in peace as one; God’s longing to heal our wounds and bring us wholeness of life - of body, mind, and spirit.

**This day**, as we hear the words, as we gather at the table – **wherever** we find ourselves, we remember. And in remembering, we make God’s love our own. We remember that Jesus will be with us again. We remember that God is always with us. In this sacramental time, in the promise God has given us: may we be strengthened; may we be healed; may we be restored to wholeness; may we live in his love.

Until we meet again! God’s peace! Rev. David Hoffman