WELCOME TO



Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

We welcome all who worship with us. If you are a guest, we are especially glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Our worship is always enhanced by new faces and voices. If you are already a part of our church family, welcome home.

Prelude: Voluntary

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All kneel or sit and keep silence for reflection and self-examination.

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 our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

After the confession, people may come forward to receive individual forgiveness with the laying on of hands.

The minister, laying both hands on each person's head, addresses each in turn.

In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

The person may respond Amen.

BACKGROUND HYMN DURING LAYING ON OF HANDS: ELW 814 "Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am"

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....

A brief silence is kept for our own intentions.

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service.

Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All respond: **Amen.** The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 116:1-2, 12-19



Psalm 116:13.

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- ¹ I love the LORD, who has I heard my voice, and listened to my I supplication,
- ² for the LORD has given | ear to me whenev- | er I called.
- ¹² How shall I re- ^I pay the LORD for all the good things God has ^I done for me?
- 13 I will lift the cup | of salvation and call on the name | of the LORD. R
- ¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows I to the LORD in the presence of I all God's people.
- 15 Precious in your | sight, O LORD, is the death | of your servants.
- ¹⁶O LORD, truly I I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me I from my bonds.
 - ¹⁷ I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD in the presence of | all God's people,
¹⁹ in the courts of | the LORD's house, in the midst of you, | O Jerusalem. R

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 177 "Lenten Acclamation"

GOSPEL: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel concludes:
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 708 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

FOOTWASHING/HANDWASHING

On this night we have heard our Lord's commandment to love one another as he has loved us. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant. Our commitment to this loving service is signified in the washing of feet, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.

HYMN: ELW 642 "Ubi caritas et amor" Where True Charity and Love Abide

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, hear our prayer.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Deuteronomy 16:17

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord, your God, which he has given you.

OFFERTORY: ELW 185 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads in prayer. Please stand at the invitation to pray:

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: ELW page 144 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister leads the Eucharistic Prayer At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, all say:

Amen.

...With this bread and cup

We remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P- Grace our table with your presence.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

C- Come, Holy Spirit.

P- We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever

C- Amen

*The Lord's Prayer (Spoken)

(Those who wish may hold hands as a sign of Christian unity).

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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW (page 146) "Lamb of God"

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All Baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Those who do not wish to commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing (fold your arms over your chest).

The Body is available as bread or gluten-free Host.

The Blood is available as wine (large chalices) or non.alcoholic juice (small chalice). Worshipers may receive Communion via "intinction," dipping the Host into the Chalice, or by common cup, on the PULPIT side of the Altar. If you're on the Pulpit side, you may also feel free to intinct. The other chalice is for intinction ONLY.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say: The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The appropriate response is:

Amen.

During the distribution, please pray silently or join in singing.

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 471 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Choir: The Lord Jesus

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand at the invitation to pray:

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, lesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

Psalm 22: Read slowly during this time.

ALL DEPART IN SILENCE.

The end of Worship – The beginning of Christian Ministry.

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Pastor Lynn M. Fonfara

Music Director: Len Cremisio

Asst. Ministers: 9:30 a.m.

Reader: Loraine Van Haecke Crucifer: Leone Goding Assisting Minister: Patricia Bressler

Ushers: 9:30 a.m. Crystal Kirkpatrick, Byron Kirkpatrick

Craig Carlson, John Kelly

Altar Care: Crystal & Byron Kirkpatrick, Craig Carlson

Post Worship Sec.: 9:30 a.m Maureen Skurecki

Counters: Jeanne Talts

Greeters: 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship:

Communion Wine: For April from Chuck & Joy Yonko in honor of their

Children and Grandchildren

Altar Flowers: For April is given to the Glory of God

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