



"Helping others receive grace, purpose and direction by proclaiming Christ's love."

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6:30 p.m.
April 1, 2021

With nightfall 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. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's Table we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

Prayer Before Worship: Source of love and compassion, you fill us with a deep spiritual longing to taste the cup of salvation and know the joys of servant ministry. In fulfillment of our vows, we offer you our very selves, that we may fulfill your law of love and be known as your disciples. Amen.

(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)

* Indicates please stand if able. Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type.

A Warm Welcome to all as we gather as God's people to worship our Lord. We pray our worship together would strengthen your faith and desire to know and serve the One who loves us with an everlasting love as made known to us in Jesus Christ.

***Visitors**, if you are worshipping with us in person or online today,
we are glad to have you with us.*

Prelude Music

Welcome and Announcements

‡WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS‡

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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 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.

Hymn:

“Lamb of God”

ELW #336

**1. Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But you have sent him from your side
to walk upon this guilty sod
and to become the Lamb of God.**

Chorus:

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in your precious blood,
my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

**2. Your gift of love we crucified.
We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble King we named a fraud
and sacrificed the Lamb of God.**

Chorus

**3. I was so lost, I should have died,
But you have brought me to your side
to be led by your staff and rod
and to be called a lamb of God.**

Chorus

***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**

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. Amen.

†GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US†

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ²This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ¹¹This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵**Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I 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.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

**Return to the Lord, your God,
For he is gracious and merciful,
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
And abounding in steadfast love.**

*Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Response after the announcement of the gospel:
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord — and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Response after the gospel reading:
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

Pastor Sheryl

(Silence for Reflection and Meditation.)

‡WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD‡

***Hymn:**

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

**ELW #494
vv. 1,2&4**

**1. For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**2. By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

**4. In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.**

***Profession of Faith: The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of the Church:**

Each petition ends with:

Lord in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude with:

...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Exchange of Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

***Offertory Prayer**

Having offered ourselves and our gifts to God, let us pray.

God of glory, receive these gifts and the offering of our lives. As Jesus was lifted up from the earth, draw us to your heart in the midst of this world, that all creation may be brought from bondage to freedom, from darkness to light, and from death to life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Blessing of Those Receiving First Communion

In Christian love.....I now ask you in the presence of this congregation to reaffirm your Baptismal commitment. Do you promise to continue in these obligations? If so say:
"I Do."

Dakota was welcomed into the family of God at his baptism and marked with the cross of Christ forever. We now welcome him to touch, taste, smell, and embrace the presence of Jesus in Holy Communion to strengthen him as he continues his faith journey.

Now I ask you to place your hand on Dakota's head or shoulder and bless him as we say together: **"Heavenly God, creator of water, bread, and wine, bless our children as they participate in your holy meal. May it be a joy to them, drawing them ever closer to you, and strengthening them in their faith journey. Amen."**

Let us pray....

Distribution of Communion:

Christ is truly present in the Lord's Supper with gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

All are welcome and invited to receive Holy Communion.

(Communion will be served continuously at one station in the front of the church with the pulpit side of the church being dismissed first.

*WHITE GRAPE JUICE and GLUTEN FREE WAFERS are available. Just ask the server.
Children who are not yet communicants are invited to come forward for a blessing.)*

"In Remembrance of Me"

Choir

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Post-Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus, 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 ALTAR‡

The altar represents Christ, and the removal of the paraments and vessels is symbolic of the humiliation Christ endured and the barrenness of a life without Christ.

***Psalm 22** is read responsively as the items are removed from the altar area.*

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

²**O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.**

³Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴**In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.**

⁵To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

⁶**But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.**

⁷All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

⁸**Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —**

let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

⁹Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰**On you I was cast from my birth,**

and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹²**Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

¹³they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴**I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;**

my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws;

you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶**For dogs are all around me a company of evildoers encircles me.**

My hands and feet have shriveled;

¹⁷I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;

¹⁸**they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.**

¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

²⁰**Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!**

²¹Save me from the mouth of the lion!

From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

²²I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

²³**You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

²⁴**For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.**

²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

³⁰**Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,**

³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

*After the reading is complete,
the Paschal Candle is processed down the center aisle
and removed from the sanctuary.*

*There is a time of silent meditation.
No benediction is spoken until we celebrate Christ's resurrection on Easter morning.*

The congregation will not be ushered out and is asked to leave in silence.

Our worship continues with the:

**Good Friday Service at 7:30 p.m.
Easter Vigil Service at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and
Easter Worship at 10:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday.**

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Maundy Thursday Worship Assistants – April 1

USHERS: Monty & Shari Copsey
LAY READER: Kathy Randall
COMMUNION ASST: Dennis Gorr
POWER POINT: Andi Dorn
MEDIA: Jeff Van Patten
ORGANIST: Rhonda Boettcher