



*Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Holy Trinity*

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021

7:00 p.m.

(Please remember to turn off your cell phone. Thank you.)

Assembly responses are in **bold type**.

Significance of The Day: 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.

Prelude

Variations on Lenten Hymns

(Hobby)

Announcements/Greeting

Gathering (The assembly stands as the ministers enter.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Dear brothers and sisters 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.

(The assembly kneels, as able, or sits. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(The assembly stands.)

Peace

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

Apostolic 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.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(The assembly is seated.)

A reading from Exodus:

1 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2 This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3 Tell 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. 4 If 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. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10 You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 This 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. 12 For 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. 13 The 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.

14 This 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

(Psalm will be sung by Cantor.)

- 1 I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,
2 for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.
- 12 How shall I re- | pay 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.
- 14 I 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.
- 16 O 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.
- 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.

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

23 For 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, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 25 In 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." 26 For 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.

(The assembly stands.)

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

**I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another just as I have loved you.**

Gospel

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The gospel is announced.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The reading of the gospel.

1 Now 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. 2 The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4 got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5 Then 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. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." 9 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" 10 Jesus 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." 11 For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

12 After 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? 13 You call me Teacher and Lord – and you are right, for that is what I am. 14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16 Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

31b "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little 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.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(The assembly is seated.)

Sermon

The Very Rev. Dr. John P. Downey

Canon Theologian of the Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania
and Dean Emeritus of the Cathedral of St. Paul, Erie

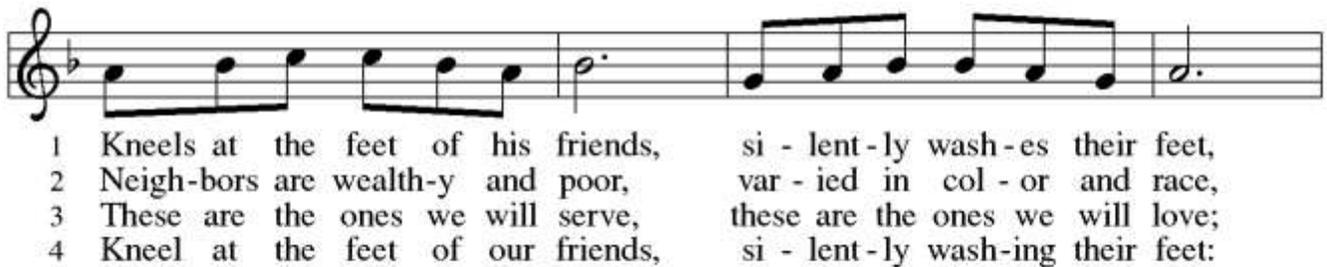
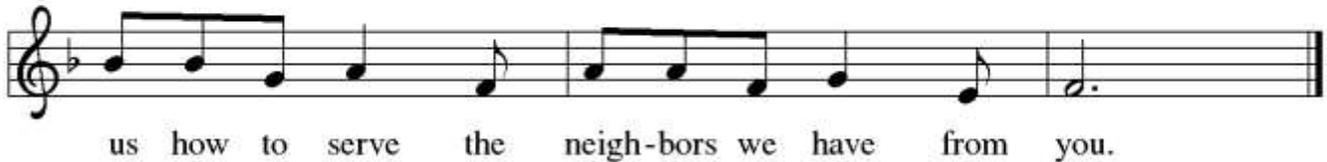
(Silence for reflection.)

Hymn of the Day

Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

(We will not be singing but these words are here for your reflection.)

Refrain



Refrain



Footwashing

(Max Hildebrand, on behalf of the congregation, will present his feet to be washed.)

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.

(The assembly stands.)

Prayers of Intercession

A: United by the servant love of God in Christ, we pray this holy night for the needs of the world, responding, “Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.”

(Brief silence)

A: You call your people to hand on what we receive from you. Form all the baptized into teachers of faith. From one generation to the next, give your church hunger for your promises in the sacraments and joy in receiving and sharing your word. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, deacons, musicians, church council members and other leaders. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Your creation provides all that we need. Cleanse and protect the water you have given for washing and drinking, water on which all life depends. Sustain crops and herds that provide food; teach us how to live so that there is enough for all. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: You redeemed your people from slavery. Preserve people throughout the world who flee violence and oppression. Establish just leadership in place of tyranny and peace in place of war. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Jesus loved his followers to the end. Grant assurance of that love to all who need it: those living with guilt, those struggling to forgive, those who are lonely or overlooked. Heal the sick and embrace the dying. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Jesus washed the feet of the one who betrayed him. Inspire this congregation’s ministries of service, that we love as Jesus loved us. Give us renewed courage to serve. Bless the ministry of ordained deacons throughout the church. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Your glory shone in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We thank you for generations of the faithful who have proclaimed our Lord's death. We remember especially Margaret and Dotty. Unite us with them in hope until he comes again. Hear us, O God,

C: **your mercy is great.**

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P: Hear these and all our prayers, O God, in the name of the one who loves us to the end, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

C: **Amen.**

(The assembly is seated.)

Meal

Offering

Music during the Offering Interlude on *Adoro te Devote* (Archer)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
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:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.
Come, Holy Spirit.

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.
Come, Holy Spirit.

With your 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.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, 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.**

Breaking of Bread

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

(The assembly is seated.)

Music during communion

Appointed hymns

(The assembly stands.)

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

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.

(Please kneel, as able, or sit, following the Post-Communion Prayer for the Stripping of the Altar.)

Stripping of the Altar

The sacramental elements and vessels, linens, candles, and books are removed from the altar while appropriate Psalm(s) are sung. We recall through this ritual the suffering and mockery of Christ

Psalm 22 *(Please join in the reading of the psalm.)*

1 My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?

Why so far from saving me,
so far from the words | of my groaning?

2 My God, I cry out by day, but you | do not answer;
by night, but I | find no rest.

3 Yet you are the | Holy One,
enthroned on the prais- | es of Israel.

4 Our ancestors put their | trust in you,
they trusted, and you | rescued them.

5 They cried out to you and | were delivered;

they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.
6 But as for me, I am a worm | and not human,
scorned by all and despised | by the people.
7 All who see me laugh | me to scorn;
they curl their lips; they | shake their heads.
8 "Trust in the LORD; let the | LORD deliver;
let God rescue him if God so de- | lights in him."
9 Yet you are the one who drew me forth | from the womb,
and kept me safe on my | mother's breast.
10 I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;
you were my God when I was still in my | mother's womb.
11 Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,
and there is no | one to help.
12 Many young bulls en- | circle me;
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.
13 They open wide their | jaws at me,
like a slashing and | roaring lion.
14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;
my heart within my breast is | melting wax.
15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd;
my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;
and you have laid me in the | dust of death.
16 Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers | circles round me;
they pierce my hands | and my feet.
17 I can count | all my bones
while they stare at | me and gloat.
18 They divide my gar- | ments among them;
for my clothing, | they cast lots.
19 But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.
20 Deliver me | from the sword,
my life from the power | of the dog.
21 Save me from the | lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.
22 I will declare your name | to my people;
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.

- 23 You who fear the LORD, give praise!
All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.
- 24 For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither is the LORD's face | hidden from them;
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.
- 25 From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.
- 26 The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise!
May your hearts | live forever!
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.
- 28 For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.
- 29 Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,
shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.
- 30 Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.
- 31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

*(After the ministers leave, the people may **leave the church building in silence** or remain in silence to contemplate the Passion of Our Lord.) Worship continues tomorrow evening, Good Friday, at 7:00 p.m.*

Serving Tonight

Presiding Minister

Pastor Brenda Martin

Preacher

The Very Rev. Dr. John P. Downey

Organist

Maidene Hackett

Cantor

Mary Beth Bradley

Liturgical Deacon

Dan Eppley

Communion Assistant

Nancy McLaughlin

Lector

Mike Balas

Acolyte

Jackson Weaver

Head Usher

Tammy Daniello

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes

The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College