

Maundy Thursday



April 2, 2026 + 7:00 p.m.

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- **Within the sanctuary** please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- **Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation**, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- **Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order** are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- **Please silence your cell phone.**

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY LITURGY

The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin for "commandment". On this night, we remember how Jesus, after washing his disciples' feet, said, "I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you. If you love each other, everyone will know that you are my disciples." This night we open ourselves to receive Jesus' love and recommit ourselves to letting that same love flow through us to others.

Tonight we will read the story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. As people would have walked dusty streets barefoot, their feet would have been dirty, blistered, and battered. Washing the disciples' feet is Jesus' way of telling his followers that, just as he will suffer for refusing to go along with the ways of the Empire, they can expect the same thing to happen to them when they resist the Empire.

Tonight you will have an opportunity to receive the gift of foot- and hand-washing. The directions for this are on page 9 of your bulletin.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

"When Jesus Wept", Dennis Elliot

Welcome

Gethsemane

by Mary Oliver

The grass never sleeps.

Or the roses.

Nor does the lily have a secret eye that shuts until morning.

Jesus said, wait with me. But the disciples slept.

The cricket has such splendid fringe on its feet,
and it sings, have you noticed, with its whole body,
and heaven knows if it ever sleeps.

Jesus said, wait with me. And maybe the stars did,
maybe the wind wound itself into a silver tree, and didn't move, maybe
the lake far away, where once he walked as on a
blue pavement,
lay still and waited, wild awake.

Oh the dear bodies, slumped and eye-shut, that could not
keep that vigil, how they must have wept,
so utterly human, knowing this too
must be a part of the story.

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn **Great God, Your Love Has Called Us**

1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889-1953

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Please be seated



Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Christ, Let Us Come with You

[Choir v 1; Congregation vv. 2-4]

Unison F/A B♭ C Dsus Dm B♭ F/A Gm7 Gm

1 Christ, let us come with you to the up - per room where the
 2 Teach us your serv - ing love: to be - come as friends, to be -
 3 Je - sus, for - give us all that we use your name though we
 4 Christ of the o - pen hands, you have brought us close to be

F/A B♭ F A7/E Dm

feast is laid, to the bread and wine where our
 come as one that the world be - lieve what your
 stand a - part, we re - fuse your prayer to be
 loved and fed, you have touched our life, now you

Am/C B♭ F/A B♭ C Dsus D

peace is made: Christ, let us come with you.
 life has done: teach us your serv - ing love.
 one at heart: Je - sus, for - give us all.
 walk a - head: Christ, let us come with you!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-)
 MUSIC: Colin Gibson (1933-)

Words and Music © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

WROSLYN ROAD
 6.5.5.5.5.6.

Gospel

John 13:1-17, 34-38

(Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

It was before Passover, and Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and to return to his Abba. He had always loved his followers in this world, and he loved them to the very end.

Even before the evening meal started, the devil had made Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, decide to betray Jesus.

Jesus knew that he had come from God and would go back to God. He also knew that his Abba had given him complete power. So during the meal Jesus got up, removed his outer garment, and wrapped a towel around his waist. He put some water into a large bowl. Then he began washing his disciples' feet and drying them with the towel he was wearing.

But when he came to Simon Peter, that disciple asked, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered, "You don't really know what I am doing, but later you will understand."

"You will never wash my feet!" Peter replied.

"If I don't wash you," Jesus told him, "you don't really belong to me."

Peter said, "Lord, don't wash just my feet. Wash my hands and my head."

Jesus answered, "People who have bathed and are clean all over need to wash just their feet. And you, my disciples, are clean, except for one of you." Jesus knew who would betray him. That is why he said, "except for one of you."

After Jesus had washed his disciples' feet and had put his outer garment back on, he sat down again. Then he said:

"Do you understand what I have done? You call me your teacher and Sovereign, and you should, because that is who I am. And if your Sovereign and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you. I tell you for certain that servants are not greater than the householder, and messengers are not greater than the one who sent them. You know these things, and God will bless you, if you do them.

[After they had eaten, and Judas had gone into the night to betray him, Jesus said,] "I am giving you a new command. You must love each other, just as I have loved you. If you love each other, everyone will know that you are my disciples."

Simon Peter asked, "Rabbi, where are you going?"
Jesus answered, "You can't go with me now, but later on you will."
Peter asked, "Rabbi, why can't I go with you now? I would die for you!"
"Would you really die for me?" Jesus asked. "I tell you for certain before a rooster crows, you will say three times that you don't even know me."

The Gospel of the Lord

Please be seated

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Musical Reflection

Wonderful Grace of Jesus Lee and Susan Dengler
Choir

Wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin;
How shall my tongue describe it, where shall its praise begin?
Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free,
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me, reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching to all the lost,
By it I have been pardoned, saved to the uttermost;
Chains have been torn asunder, giving me liberty;
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me, reaches me.

Wonderful grace of Jesus, reaching the most defiled,
By its transforming power, making me God's dear child,
Purchasing peace and heaven, for all eternity.
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me, reaches me,
Reaches me.

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Your mercy is great, O God." **Receive our prayer.**

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val and mother Margaret Bowling, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Maddie Sutphin, Becky and Larry Trover's son-in-law Brandon James, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Kathie Ehrich, Dottie and Larry Bird, Kelley Frank and Trina Thornton, Kelley's mother Charlotte Frank, Sue, Tim, and Lisa Watson, Heidi Carman, Debbie Turner's friends Sherrie and Jim Tompkins, Grace and Ken Jones and their son Dan Jones, Emily Crosley, Bill Boys, Ranel and Neil Hoddinott's sister and brother-in-law Paulie and Jerry Shaffer, Barbara Hairston, Drusanne Shaulis; WilFrantz Raymond's sister Cheslie; Don Luck, Greg Williams, Kathy and Tom Mimlitch's daughter Holly Ragland, Nate and Alyssa Bird, Linda Williams' sister-in-law Georgeann Neuzil

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION AND RECEIVE THE GIFT OF FOOT- AND HAND-WASHING

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On this night, Christ brings new life to us.

On this night, his compassion is made real.

The bread he gives fills our hunger for his living presence.

The wine he gives quenches our thirst for renewal.

The commandment to love one another gives new life to all our relationships.

And he binds us together as a community God delights in.

On this Maundy Thursday, Jesus calls us to receive his love, and respond by loving and serving this world.

Side by side, we follow him.

On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." After supper, he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

Holy Spirit, breathe on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine, that sharing in the blessed, broken, risen life of Jesus, we may share his continual life and presence. Make of us one body, so we might live at home in your love until no one is homeless. With confidence, we pray in your name:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Meal

Whoever you are, from wherever you come, whatever you believe, you are welcome and invited to receive. Come! For all things are now ready.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Foot- and Hand-Washing

We will wash feet and hands in the back of the sanctuary. After you have received communion, come to the back of the sanctuary and take a seat. (If you choose not to receive communion, you can come directly back at any time.) When a washing station is open, if you wish to have your feet washed, leave your shoes and socks under the chair and go to the station. Once you are seated, one foot will be washed (a simple pouring of water over the foot) and then dried. This is repeated for the second foot. Then return to your chair, put on your shoes and socks, and return to your pew. If you wish to have your hands washed, simply go to an open station and stand. Water will be poured over your hands, and then they will be dried.



Closing Words

This is the last meal Jesus and his disciples shared together before he gave his all and emptied himself – before the powers-that-be decided that his compassion and courage were too much of a threat. The ultimate fate of his message and mission would be in the hands of the likes of us – deniers, doubters, betrayers all – saints and sinners and prodigal children. Tonight, fed and washed, may his compassion and courage come alive in us, as we invite the Holy Spirit to live and work in us, who, in spite of all the ways we fall short, still are fed and washed, still are named God's beloved.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Please remain seated

Hymn

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum-ble us, and
5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

call us friends. Suf-fer and serve till all are fed,
joy to share. Give us your Spir-it's lib-er-ty

and show how grand-ly love in-tends to work till all cre-
to turn from guilt and dull de-spair, and of-fer all that

a-tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
faith can do while love is mak-ing all things new.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff of each system.

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Stripping of the Altar

The altar represents Christ, and the solemn removal of all that is on it forces us to confront his betrayal, abandonment, arrest, and, tomorrow, his execution. While the altar is stripped, Psalm 22 is read. On the cross, as he feels so abandoned and alone, Jesus cries out using words from this psalm.

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from me,
from my desperate cries for help?
I call you by day, O my God,
but you do not answer me;
by night, but I find no rest.*

*Yet you are the Holy One,
praised by the people and enthroned in the sanctuary.
In you our ancestors put their trust.
They trusted, and you set them free;
they cried and were delivered;
they trusted you, and were not disappointed.*

*But I am a worm, hardly human,
despised by all, mocked by the crowd.
All who see me jeer at me. They sneer at me, shaking their heads:
"You relied on God; let God help you!
If God loves you, let God save you!"*

*Yet it was you who drew me from the womb
and soothed me at my mother's breast.
I have belonged to you from my birth;
from my mother's womb you have been my God.
I will tell out your name to my people;
I will praise you where they are assembled.
For you did not despise or disregard
the poverty of the poor;
you did not hide your face from me
but heard when I cried to you.
You inspire my praise in the great assembly.
I will make good my promise before your faithful people.*

*All the ends of the earth will remember
and turn again to you
Families of all races will worship you,
for you hold dominion over the nations.
Even those who sleep in the earth
will bow before you;
but how can these, our ancestors,
serve you from the grave?
It is I who must live for you, O God!
It is my descendants who will serve you;
the coming generation will be told of you.
And they will proclaim your deliverance
to people yet unborn,
saying, "These things God has done."*

Translation by Wild Goose Publications

The Entrance of the Crown of Thorns

As part of their effort to humiliate and degrade him, the Roman soldiers created a crown from a thorn bush and put it on Jesus' head as they sarcastically knelt before him as "King of the Jews". We place a crown of thorns on the altar to remind us of this story. We depart in silence, painfully aware of the ways so much of creation suffers to support our lifestyles, and keep us from having to confront our culture's addiction to violence and fear.



Departure in Silence

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
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HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Good Friday

April 3 + 7:00 pm

Tennebrae—Gospel of John

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship

Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, April 5

8:30 am

IN-PERSON Worship

9:45 am

Easter Brunch

11:00 am

IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TONIGHT

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Cantor
Organist & Senior Choir Director
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director
Usher
Communion Prep
Producers

Elizabeth Hoster, Pastor
Lynn Belhorn
Jennifer Young
Kathy Rapp
Karen Kent
Kathleen Zwanziger
Kay Ernsthausen, Misato In
Tom Mimplitch, Sue Yehling



Margaret Ackland: Last Supper, 1993

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community
Redeemer's Values: Inclusion, Compassion, Justice