

April 6, 2023



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THE SERVICE OF HOLY WEEK . . .

The services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil are really one worship service that continues for three consecutive days.

Historically these days are called the Triduum in Latin. This simply means: The Three Days.”

On **Maundy Thursday**, we focus on Holy communion, especially the “Cup.” An early Church name for the Maundy Thursday celebration was “Natale Calicis.” In Latin this means, “Birthday of the Cup.” During our worship we will remember the events that took place on the night in which our Lord Jesus was betrayed. While gathered in the “Upper Room” Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper, and gave us the command (“mandate”) to love one another.

On **Good Friday**, we focus on “the Cross,” the crucified Savior, and His lifegiving death at Calvary. The simplicity and the progressive darkening of the sanctuary emphasizes the stark and solemn nature of the day. There is, however, a hint of triumph in the service, for on this day Jesus died that we might live.

On **Holy Saturday**, we observe the Vigil of Easter, a wonderful and moving celebration of our Passover in Christ from death and darkness to light and life. We participate in God’s salvation through our dying and rising with Christ in our Baptism and through the sharing of the Bread of Life at the altar. This is the night we celebrate creation and renewal, liberation and salvation. There is no other night like it! The light of the Risen Christ shines in our midst—Alleluia!

INTRODUCTION

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.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 14, 2022

7:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

Every Sunday in worship the church celebrates the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit gathers us to receive again the gifts of God that come to us through Christ, the saving Word. On several key days at the center of the church year, however, worship takes a particular shape. These central days have come to be known as the Three Days, recalling Jesus' own words to his disciples that he would be handed over to death, and that "after three days he will rise again" (Mark 10:34). The Three Days encompass the time from Maundy Thursday evening through the evening of Easter Day. In particular, the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter unfold in a single movement, as the church each year makes the passage with Christ through death into life.

PRELUDE *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* Arr. Van der Pol
Piano/organ duet—Susie Gray—piano

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN **Red hymnal #605** *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: 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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: **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.

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Music in Red hymnal on page 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal page 139-140

Glory to God

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: **Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray . . .

C: **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 the 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**

CHANCEL CHOIR Director: Bill Jones *Go to Dark Gethsemane*
Composer: *Richard Redhead*

THE WORD

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

R: 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.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

R: 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.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Music in Red hymnal page 142

C: 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.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to **John 13:1–17, 31b—35**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: 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.

^{31b}"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.'³⁴ I 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Pastor Dale Schaefer

HYMN Red hymnal #476

Thee We Adore, O Savior

OUR RESPONSE

NICENE CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD *(Response after each petition)*

P: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer . . .

OFFERTORY SONG Red hymnal #186 *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER / WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 confess Jesus as their Lord and Savior and believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to receive Holy Communion.)*

DURING COMMUNION

Abide With Me

Arr. Lani Smith

Piano/Organ Duet—Susie Gray-Piano

CLOSING HYMN Red hymnal #359

Where Charity and Love Prevail

STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

P: After the Last Supper, less than twenty four hours remained in the earthly life of our Lord. Events moved rapidly: prayer in Gethsemane, betrayal by Judas, arrest, mock trial, painful beating, the trudge to Golgotha and execution. Jesus' offered body and His shed blood have been given to us in, with, and under the bread and wine in this Holy Mystery.

C: **As he was removed from us in the grave, so we remove the elements and vessels of this Sacrament.** (*Communion vessels are removed*)

P: The cross is where Jesus took on our punishment to be able to give us the gift of heaven.

C: **When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"** (*John 1:29*)

P: As this statement was fulfilled on the cross, the processional cross is removed from the sanctuary. (*The processional cross is removed.*)

The missal stand holds our worship books and the guide our worship life together as we sing praises to God.

C: **As Jesus suffers, joyous songs are heard.**

P: As these sounds of joy are removed from our lips, we remove the missal stand and its book. (*The missal stand and altar book are removed.*)

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (*John 8:12*)

C: **The events of Golgotha snuffed out the human life of Jesus, the Light of the world.**

P: As creation was dark when He suffered, so we extinguish our candles and remove them. (*Candles are extinguished and removed.*)

Our offerings represent one way of serving God and others. They reflect God's greatest offering to the world and to us in sending His Son, Jesus, in human form.

C: As the offered body of Jesus was removed from sight in burial, so we remove our offerings. *(The offerings are removed.)*

P: The altar is the place where our Lord Jesus serves us both host and meal at His banquet feast. The coverings and paraments are made of fine linen and brocade; materials appropriate for feasting with our King.

C: As our King's body was stripped in crucifixion, so our altar is stripped of its coverings. *The altar cloths and paraments are removed.)*

*As the stripping of the altar has been completed
all may leave the church in silence.*

***Our devotion continues tomorrow evening
Good Friday, at 7:00 p.m.***

Staff

Dale Schaefer, Interim Pastor; Bill Jones & Susie Gray, *Choir Directors*;
Lori Sebastian, *Organist*; Jessica Dorn *Christian Education Director*
Annette Calicoat, *Office Manager*; Sue Rambeau, *Treasurer*;
Tina Putnam, *Sexton*