

St. John
SHARING
the LOVE of Christ



Maundy Thursday
April 1, 2021
5:30 pm & 7:00 pm

We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church as we gather for this time of worship and reflection on God's love for the world.

The Three Days (Triduum)

The Three Days is the church's annual experience of the heart of the Christian faith. Because there ought to be no immersion into suffering without the gift of resurrection, and there ought to be no resurrection without the reality of uncertainty and suffering, the Three Days is one story and one worship, told in three chapters: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday end in silence, in anticipation of the next chapter in the story.

Maundy Thursday: The First Chapter

The season of turning toward and returning to grace ends as it began: in repentance. Our confession of sin we share is met by the flood of God's forgiveness; even all our self-examination, fasting and prayer, sacrificial giving and works of love are washed away. Grace alone carries us, reconciled with God and with one another, into the Three Days. Now begins "the hour" that holds the universe and widens to eternity: the suffering, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Worship Leaders

Deacon

Jim Bartz

Altar Guild

Jan Drish, Cheryl Lovell, Carol Robinson

Ushers

Pam Kornaus, Jackie Mansholt, Lisa Marshall,
Mike Smith, Sandy Smith, Steve Volkening

Pianist/Organist

Janet Blomquist

Livestream Director/Graphics

Dawn MacGregor

Audio Board

Mike Pragit, Ellen Goodwin, Jason Vorrier

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Prelude

“Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle”

arr. Callahan

Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Friends in Christ, 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.

Let us in silence remember our own faults and failings.

Silence for reflection

P In the community of Christ's Church and in the presence of all God's people, I confess to God that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed. I have not loved God, cared for God's world, or respected God's people as I should. I own my responsibility and pray for God's mercy.

C May God forgive you, Christ befriend you, and the Spirit renew and change your life.

C In the community of Christ's church and in the presence of all God's people, we confess to God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved God, cared for God's world, or respected God's people as we should. We own our responsibility and pray for God's mercy.

P May God forgive you, Christ befriend you, and the Spirit renew and change your life.

C Amen.

***Prayer of the Day**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Holy God, you gave up all the power of the universe to serve humanity in the body of one who would endure great suffering. By your ultimate sacrifice you taught us how to serve. Make us grateful people of the earth, and feed our souls with your holy meal for our service to the world, for the sake of the one who held back nothing to give us everything, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Psalm 33:13-22

The Lord looks down from heaven;
he sees all humankind.

From where he sits enthroned he watches
all the inhabitants of the earth—
he who fashions the hearts of them all,
and observes all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

The war horse is a vain hope for victory,
and by its great might it cannot save.

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
to deliver their soul from death,
and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and shield.

Our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

***Gospel**

Luke 22:1-27

P The gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people.

Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, 'Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

P The gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Jennifer Beamsley

Musical Reflection

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

arr. Callahan

***Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

P Let us pray for new life in the church, new hope for the world, and God's
love for all who are in need.

The prayers conclude:

P We pray to you, O God, in the name of the one who endured the cross,
forgives our sin, and feeds us at his table, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

*Please remained seated in your pew as you
share God's peace by waving to one another.*

Offertory

"In This Very Room"

Harris & Harris, arr. Keveren

The offering will be received at the doors when we leave.

***Offertory Prayer**

P Let us pray.

C God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving** *(spoken)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

***Words of Institution**

***The 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**

P Come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time,
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, not because it is I who invite you: it is our Lord.
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Distribution

We believe in the true presence of Jesus Christ in this meal and at this table. The assembly remains in the pews and receives communion as one, as the pastor says the following words:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Receptacles will be provided near the exits of the building for disposal of your communion ware.

Communion Music

“Lamb of God”

Paris, arr. Hayes

Blessing *(please remain seated)*

C **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer *(please remain seated)*

P Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us, and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us and take us with you.

C **Amen.**

Reading of Psalm 22 and Stripping of the Worship Space

As the worship space is stripped, we move with Christ from the celebration of the sacrament toward his arrest and trial, crucifixion, and death. The altar, bare of all adornments, reminds us of Christ in the hands of his captors, stripped of power and glory. The psalm yields to a silent conclusion. The liturgy does not end here but merely pauses, continuing the next evening with Good Friday. Because one fasts when Christ is away, we will not celebrate the sacrament again until the resurrection of our Lord.

Congregation leaves in silence.

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