



104 Union Street South  
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Office Phone: 704.786.0166  
Website: [www.sjnc.net](http://www.sjnc.net)

# Saint James Lutheran Church



A Parish of the North Carolina Synod of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



“Growing in Christ Through Worship, Learning, Fellowship, and Service”

APRIL 9, 2020



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

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.

## GATHERING

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

Le Banquet Céleste

Olivier Messiaen (1908 - 1992)

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross ✝ in remembrance of baptism*  
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 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.**

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

**FIRST READING *Exodus 12:1-14***

*Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.*

A reading from Exodus, the twelfth chapter.

**T**he Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: <sup>2</sup>This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. [<sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. <sup>6</sup>You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. <sup>10</sup>You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ] <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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.**

**SECOND READING *1 Corinthians 11:23-26***

*In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

**F**or 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, <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>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." <sup>26</sup>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.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL    *John 13:1-17, 31b-35***

*The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.*

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the thirteenth chapter.    **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**N**ow 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. <sup>2</sup>The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper <sup>3</sup>Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, <sup>4</sup>got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." <sup>9</sup>Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" <sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." <sup>12</sup>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? <sup>13</sup>You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup>So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup>For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup>Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup>If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."  
<sup>31b</sup>"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>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.' <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>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.**

## **SERMON**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we profess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 PEOPLE

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of love, unite your church in its commitment to humble service. Make us your faithful disciples. Speak words of truth and grace through us. Encourage us in self-giving acts of kindness. Help us to love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, tend to flocks, fields, and vineyards. Bring favorable weather for crops to grow. Guide the hands of those who cultivate, farm, and garden. Let the earth flourish so that all may eat and be satisfied. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you give us a new commandment, to have love for one another. We give thanks for organizations that are responding during this current pandemic and for agencies that offer relief and humanitarian aid to those in need. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, give ear to all who call upon you for any need of body or spirit. Provide for those who do not have enough to eat, those who are unemployed or underemployed, those who are separated from loved one, those who are sick and those who afraid of becoming sick, those who serve on the front line during this trying time and those who work in grocery stores and food service, and the trucking industry whose sacrifices may go unnoticed, and for all rely on the generosity of others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, glorify your servants who walked by faith in this life and who now feast with you. Inspire us by the sacrifice of those who were imprisoned, persecuted, or martyred for their faith. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of love, we offer you these prayers, in the shadow of the cross, in the hope of the paschal feast to come, and in the name of Jesus Christ who endured the cross and the grave.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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.**

*The linens, paraments, ornaments, and candles are removed from the altar  
as a cantor sings Psalm 22*

## PSALM 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me,  
from the words of my groaning?  
<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.  
<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.  
<sup>5</sup>To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
<sup>6</sup>But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
<sup>7</sup>All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
<sup>8</sup>"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"  
<sup>9</sup>Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.  
<sup>10</sup>On you I was cast from my birth, and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
<sup>11</sup>Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.  
<sup>12</sup>Many bulls encircle me, strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
<sup>13</sup>they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.  
<sup>14</sup>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;  
<sup>15</sup>my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.  
<sup>16</sup>For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me. My hands and feet have shriveled;  
<sup>17</sup>I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;  
<sup>18</sup>they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.  
<sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
<sup>20</sup>Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!  
<sup>21</sup>Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
<sup>22</sup>I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him,  
all you offspring of Israel!  
<sup>24</sup>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.  
<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!  
<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall  
worship before him.  
<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.  
<sup>29</sup>To 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.  
<sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,  
<sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

### Copyrights

**Le Banquet Céleste** Copyright © 1960 by Éditions Musicales Alphonse Leduc. Copyright © assigned to Wise Music Group. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
**Psalm 22** Words from [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com). Copyright © 2020 by Augsburg Fortress. "Psalm Tone 13" from Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Copyright © 2006 by Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.