

# Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025



*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.*

## **We Gather & Receive God's Forgiveness**

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### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

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.

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.**

# We Celebrate a Meal & Serve One Another

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## APOSTOLIC GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray together...**Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of life in faith may speak again in our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**READING** (*see insert*)

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

*The Reading Ends:*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## TABLE PRAYER

Let us pray together...**Lord, we come to hear your word, serve each other, and eat together with you. Be present in the water, the wine and bread, the Word and our conversations, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**READING** (*see insert*)

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

*The Reading Ends:*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## WASHING

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, following the example our Lord gave us on the night before his death.



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as  
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers  
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time  
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll  
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to  
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er  
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,  
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row  
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.  
 walk the mile and bear the load.  
 speak the peace you long to hear.  
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

## PRAYER FOR SERVICE TO OTHERS

Let us pray together...**Lord, you have washed us and made us clean in the waters of baptism. You have shown us how to serve each other and serve you. Inspire us to acts of love and service, help us to do for others as you have done for us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## READING

Luke 22:7-13

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke:

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it."

<sup>9</sup>They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" <sup>10</sup>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 <sup>11</sup>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?"' <sup>12</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs,

already furnished. Make preparations for us there." <sup>13</sup>So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## MEAL PRAYER

Let us pray together...**Lord, we thank you for bringing us together, for the food we are about to eat, and for the people who prepared it. Thank you for nourishing both our bodies and our spirits. In our fellowship, make us your body. Nourish us to be your hands and feet in the world to feed the hungry, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WE SHARE THE MEAL

## HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW (Green Book) Hymn #215

“O Lord, We Praise You”

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray together... **Lord, we thank you for the wonderful food and conversation we have shared. Be with us now as our feasting continues and we celebrate the meal of your love and forgiveness in the Eucharist. May we experience these familiar words and actions in a new fresh way, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE 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 God thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE & SANCTUS



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in

heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.

For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are

yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

## AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men

## RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All baptized Christians who wish to meet their Lord in the Body and the Blood are welcome to the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

WOV (Blue Book) Hymn #668

“There in God’s Garden”

# We Are Sent into the World

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## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

*Silence for Reflection*

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*“Stripping of the altar” symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. Leaving the altar bare anticipates the humiliation of Jesus, and act of humility, and the consequences of sin as a preparation for the celebration of new life.*

*There is no benediction. All leave the church in silence. The omission of the benedictions at the end of the liturgies of the Triduum; Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, indicate their continuity with each other, with the Vigil of Easter, and with the Easter Day Celebration.*

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# Today's Readings

**Maundy Thursday**  
April 17, 2025

## 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 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14**

The 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.

## Psalm

**Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; tone 5**



I love the LORD, who has <sup>1</sup>heard my voice,  
and listened to my <sup>1</sup>supplication,  
<sup>2</sup>for the LORD has given <sup>1</sup>ear to me  
whenever I called.  
<sup>12</sup>How shall I re-<sup>1</sup>pay the LORD  
for all the good things  
God has <sup>1</sup>done for me?  
<sup>13</sup>I will lift the cup <sup>1</sup>of salvation  
and call on the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD.

<sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup>to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup>all God's people.  
<sup>15</sup>Precious in your <sup>1</sup>sight, O LORD,  
is the death <sup>1</sup>of your servants.  
<sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I <sup>1</sup>am your servant;  
I am your servant,  
the child of your handmaid;  
you have freed me <sup>1</sup>from my bonds.

*continued*

<sup>17</sup>I will offer you  
the sacrifice <sup>1</sup> of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

<sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows <sup>1</sup> to the LORD  
in the presence of <sup>1</sup> all God's people,  
<sup>19</sup>in the courts of <sup>1</sup> the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, <sup>1</sup> O Jerusalem.

## Second Reading

## 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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.

## Gospel

## John 13:1-17, 31b-35

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. <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."

TODAY'S READINGS April 17, 2025

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**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; Luke 24:1-12 or John 20:1-18.

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