



Maundy Thursday
APRIL 1, 2021

The following worship service may be used on its own or along with the video found on the Swamp Lutheran YouTube page.

This liturgy begins the most important time of the Christian year. Christians around the world gather to observe the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example to care humbly for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's Supper we remember Jesus' sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

Hymn "Love Consecrates the Humblest Act"

ELW 360

- 1 Love consecrates the humblest act
and haloes mercy's deeds;
it sheds a benediction sweet
and hallows human needs.
- 2 When in the shadow of the cross
Christ knelt and washed the feet
of his disciples, he gave us
a sign of love complete.
- 3 Love serves and willing stoops to serve;
what Christ in love so true
has freely done for one and all,
let us now gladly do!

The Apostolic Greeting and 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:

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.

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. [⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1Corinthians 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.

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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 13: 1—17; 31b-35

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 another.

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.' ³⁴I 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily The Rev. Kurt Strause

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," and the response is "**Hear our prayer.**"

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as is 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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace;

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

Amen

Hymn "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

ELW 708

Refrain

Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.

- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain*
- 3 These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Take up your cross. Follow the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Ave Verum"

W.A.Mozart



Michael A. Crowther
Clarice Haws
Betty Hornberger
Charles Moyer
Ella Shirk
Alverta Showalter
Clyde Showalter
Mary Ann Weitzel
Mary Jane Miller
Josie Reitz

Katie Houck
Sue Kittler
Family of Ralph Good
Susan Levan
Nancy Kulp
Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream)
Clair Sweigart
Earl Myers
Ashton Faust
Family of Joel M. Smith
Family of Audrey Lewandowski

Sharon Fremont – friend of Sue Kreitz
Shirley Achey – neighbor of Sue Kreitz
Hunter Leisey
Elmo Lorah
Jean Wolf
Mary Jane Miller
Janice Moyer Kelly
Josie Reitz
Joan Long



When someone is put on the prayer list, we will keep them on for four weeks. After that time, they will be taken off unless you make another request to have them put back on.

TAKE NOTE - Please contact Joyce Stoner 717-336-7077 if you would like to sponsor a candle or flowers. Many coming dates are open.

Holy Week

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

Schedule of Holy Week Worship Services



Good Friday: April 2 – 8:00 p.m.

A somber and dramatic service in which we celebrate the Triumph of the Cross. The Gospel of John tells the story of Jesus facing all the powers of darkness and evil as he willingly accepts the will of his Father for the sake of the whole world.

Easter Day, The Resurrection of Our Lord: April 4 – 6:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

Christ is Risen! Jesus triumphs over the powers of sin and death as he is raised from the dead. The whole church resounds with the glorious “Alleluias” signaling the end of our captivity.

Two essentially identical services are being offered on Easter morning to accommodate extra worshippers.



Please note there will be no Holy Week breakfasts this year, nor will there be an Easter morning breakfast. Please let the church office know which Easter service your family will be attending.